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Indian Labour Gazette

LABOUR BUREAU • GOVERNMENT OF INDIA • MINISTRY OF LABOUR

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INDUSTRIAL AWARDS IN INDIA—AN ANALYSIS

LABOUR BUREAU PUBLICATION NO. 9

The awards, etc., analysed in this monograph cover a period from 1939 to 1950 and deal with such topics as jurisdiction of Industrial Tribunals, minimum wages, dearness allowance, night shift allowance, leave and holidays with pay, profit sharing and profit bonus, provision for the future of workers, compensation for involuntary unemployment, payment of wages during a period of strike or lockout, retrenchment and reinstatement. It also contains appendices in tabular form showing basic minimum wages, dearness allowance, leave with pay, provident fund and gratuity recommended by Adjudicators, etc., and legislative provisions regarding holidays with pay in various countries.

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percentage of women workers employed to the total

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LABOUR CONDITIONS IN THE JUTE MILL INDUSTRY IN INDIA

The jute mill industry occupies an important place in Indian economy. Apart from the fact that it is the largest foreign exchange earner, it is also one of the largest industries from the point of view of the number of persons employed and the amount of capital invested. Out of a total of Rs. 460.4 crores worth of goods exported to other countries in 1949-50, jute manufactures accounted for Rs. 126.6 crores. Next to the cotton mill industry, the jute mill industry employs the largest number of workers. During the year 1949, on an average 3,22,159 persons were employed in this industry. The capital invested in the industry is reported to be approximately Rs. 50 crores.

A comprehensive survey of the conditions of labour in the industry was conducted by the Labour Investigation Committee during 1944-45. The findings of the Committee were incorporated in a report which was published in 1946.* In order to bring the information contained in this report up-to-date, questionnaires were issued from time to time by the Labour Bureau to individual mills and also to the Indian Jute Mills Association. The latest questionnaire was issued in July 1950. It was addressed to all jute mills in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and to two units in Madras. Since most of the mills in West Bengal were members of the Indian Jute Mills Association, the Association was requested to furnish information regarding its member mills. This article is based generally on the information supplied by the Indian Jute Mills Association and individual mills. The information relates to 76 units—70 in West Bengal, 3 in U. P., 2 in Bihar and 1 in Madras.

With the exception of a few units in Madras, U. P., Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, rest of the mills are situated in West Bengal. Proximity to the source of raw material has largely been responsible for the concentration of the industry in West Bengal. The following table shows the regional distribution of jute mills as in 1949.

Regional Distribution of Jute Mills (1949)

State	No. of mills	Average daily number of workers employed	No. of looms installed
Bihar	3	6,232	926
Madhya Pradesh	1	920	220
Madras	4	7,108	1,042
U. P.	3	6,852	821
West Bengal	94	3,01,047	69,152
Total	105	3,22,159	72,161

*Report on an Enquiry into Conditions of Labour in the Jute Mill Industry in India by S. R. Deshpande.

INDUSTRIAL AWARDS IN INDIA—AN ANALYSIS

It is stated in LABOUR BUREAU PUBLICATION NO. 9 that 89.5 per cent. of the units, 93.4 per cent. of the workers employed and 95.8 per cent. of looms installed in the industry.

The following table, based on returns under the Factories Act, shows the progress of the industry since 1944. It will be seen that in 1949 there were 105 mills employing 322,159 thus recording an increase of 15.38 per cent. in the number of mills and 12.38 per cent. in the number of persons employed as compared to 1944.

Year	No. of mills	Average daily number of workers employed					
		Adults		Adolescents		Children	Total
		Men	Women	Boys	Girls		
1944	91	249,722	37,754	914	104	169	288,663
1945	87	260,557	40,613	1,497	334	318	303,319
1946	96	266,780	42,881	2,685	251	536	313,133
1947	98	273,975	41,707	2,874	151	595	319,302
1948	100	285,741	41,909	1,394	47	338	329,429
1949	105	279,393	41,494	1,128	79	65	322,159

The bulk of the labour force in jute mills consists of men. In 1949, out of a total of 322,159 workers, only 41,494 or 12.88 per cent. were women. The percentage of adolescent boys and girls was only .35 and .02 respectively. The tendency among the mills appears to be to eliminate the employment of children. From the latest information supplied by the Indian Jute Mills Association and individual mills in response to the Labour Bureau's questionnaire, it would appear that none of the mills now employ children. The following tabular statement based on the information received in response to the Labour Bureau's questionnaire shows the composition of the labour force in the industry in the various States as in April 1950.

State	Super- visory staff	Clerks	Workers			Total
			Men	Women	Children	
1. Bihar—						
(a) Unit No. 1 .	4	43	1,855	—	—	1,902
(b) Unit No. 2 .	15	33	1,539	86	—	1,673
2. Madras (1 Unit)—	9	55	1,672	293	—	2,029
3. U. P.—						
(a) Unit No. 1 .	8	51	1,268	14	—	1,341
(b) Unit No. 2 .	28	73	3,631	176	—	3,908
(c) Unit No. 3 .	10	37	1,317	34	—	1,398
4. West Bengal— (70 units)	1,176	6,470	213,000	33,000	—	253,646
Total .	1,250	6,762	224,282	33,603	—	265,897

The percentage of women workers employed to the total labour force varies from unit to unit and from State to State. In Madras and West Bengal the percentage of women workers is as high as 14.9 and 13.4 respectively. In Bihar only one unit employs women. In that unit the percentage of women workers is only 5.3. All the U. P. mills employ women but the percentage is very low. It varies from 1.1 to 4.6.

At the time the Labour Investigation Committee conducted its survey, 1.67 per cent. of the labour force in Bengal, 1.32 to 4.7 per cent. in Madras was employed through contractors. None of the U. P. mills at that time employed contract labour. The question of abolishing the system of employing workers through contractors was examined by the Industrial Tribunal which was appointed by the Government of West Bengal to settle an industrial dispute between workers and employers of the jute mill industry in the State. The Tribunal recommended its total abolition in all the mills. As a result of this recommendation the system was abolished in all the jute mills in West Bengal with effect from 1st April 1948. In other States, however, the system still exists although to a very small extent.

All the units have classified their workers into various categories e.g., permanent, temporary, *badli*, casual and apprentice. From the information supplied by the units it would appear that the bulk of the labour force in different units is permanent. In West Bengal and Madras nearly 85 per cent. of the workers are permanent and the rest are temporary. One unit each in U.P. and Bihar has supplied information regarding workers in different categories. In both the units less than 2 per cent. of the workers are temporary and the rest are permanent. From the standing orders framed by the different units it would appear that those persons who are employed on a permanent post and who complete satisfactorily a probationary period of two to three months are deemed to be permanent. The services of permanent employees cannot be terminated unless they are served with a proper notice as prescribed in the standing orders. The usual period of notice prescribed in the standing orders is 14 days.

Recruitment and Training.—Recruitment in jute mills in West Bengal is done through Labour Bureaux. Labour Officers of the mills or members of the supervisory staff are usually in charge of the Bureaux. Registers of *badlis* are maintained at Labour Bureaux and long term or short term employment is given to registered *badlis* in strict rotation. Any worker willing to get his name registered as a *badli* worker has to apply for the same and, if necessary, has to undergo a trade test before registration. Regis-

tered *badlis* are required to attend the Bureau twice a day. For regular attendance at the Bureau they are given food-stuffs at concession rates or Rs. 2 in lieu per week.

In 1944 when the Labour Investigation Committee conducted its survey, in some of the mills *Sardars* and supervisory staff exercised considerable influence in matters of recruitment, promotion, etc. This resulted in bribery and corruption. The Committee had, in their report, recommended the eradication of this evil. The matter was examined by the Industrial Tribunal for the jute mill industry which was appointed by the Government of West Bengal in 1947. The Tribunal recommended that the system of employment of *Sardars* for recruiting labour or of vesting *Sardars* with powers of interfering with the appointment or discharge of workers should be abolished forthwith in all the mills. It further recommended that a labour bureau should be established in every mill as soon as practicable and all appointments of workers should be made, as far as practicable, in accordance with the recommendations of the Labour Officer, if any, in charge of the bureau. It is understood that steps have been taken by the mills to implement this recommendation. *Sardars* have now no hand in matters of recruitment, dismissal or punishment of workers, and all the mills have established Labour Bureaux.

In U. P., workers are still being recruited direct either by the Manager or by the departmental officers. In one unit in Bihar a Labour Bureau has been established. The system of recruitment in this unit is similar to that in force in West Bengal mills. In the other units workers are recruited through the labour office of the mill. Recruitment of workers in Madras is the responsibility of the Welfare Officer appointed by the mill.

With the exception of U. P. mills and one mill in Bihar all other mills have some system of apprenticeship and training. In the member mills of the Indian Jute Mills Association workers in the mechanical department are generally required to undergo a period of apprenticeship before they are promoted to the rank of journeymen. The Indian Jute Mills Association also grants scholarships to nominees of mills for the purpose of undergoing technical training for suitable appointments in jute mills. Ten such scholarships are granted annually. The value of the scholarship for each trainee is Rs. 200 per year. In the Madras mill, apprentices are trained for a period of 4 to 5 years. During the first year of training they are paid at the rate of 12 pies per hour. They get an increment of 2 pies every year. After completing the training they may be required to work as 'improvers' for another year. The 'improvers' get pay at the rate of 21 pies per hour. In one unit in

Bihar workers are trained for employment in workshops. The period of training is 4 years. During the first year of training, apprentices are paid Rs. 3/8/- per week as wages and Rs. 7/-/6 as dearness allowance. During subsequent years they get an annual increment of annas eight. Usually persons below 20 years of age are taken as apprentices.

Hours of Work and Shifts.—The hours of work of the member mills of the Indian Jute Mills Association are regulated by their working time agreements. The working time agreement which was signed by the member mills on 12th June 1944 permitted mills with over 220 looms to work 54 hours a week and those with 220 or less looms to work 72 hours a week. In 1946, as a result of the enactment of the Factories (Amendment) Act, 1946, it became necessary for the mills to reduce the hours of work to 48 per week. In July, therefore, the agreement was revised and the working hours of mills with over 220 looms were reduced to 48 per week. The mills with 220 or less continued to work 72 hours per week. To meet the situation created by the abnormal demand for goods, the Indian Jute Mills Association recommended the adoption of a multiple shift system up to 60 hours weekly to all member mills. Owing to certain technical and practical difficulties the response to this suggestion did not prove to be good. As a result of a serious situation created by the deterioration of the position of raw jute stock in mills in 1949, the Association recommended the sealing of $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of looms. This recommendation was enforced with effect from 2nd May, 1949. Since, however, the position regarding the availability of raw jute continued to deteriorate, the Working Time Agreement was again revised and from 1st July 1949, the mills in West Bengal were requested to close down for one week each month. In order to help the Government of India in their barter deal with Argentina and to facilitate production of hessian required by the U.S.A., the Indian Jute Mills Association announced towards the close of November 1949 a new scheme of $42\frac{1}{2}$ hours a week without any closure. The West Bengal mills were asked to implement the new scheme with effect from 5th December 1950. To increase hessian production the mills were requested to unseal hessian looms and to seal sacking looms instead.

In April 1950, West Bengal mills with over 220 looms were working $42\frac{1}{2}$ hours per week, while others were working 48 hours per week. The single shift mills generally worked for $8\frac{1}{2}$ hours a day with a recess period varying from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 hours in the middle of the day. The double shift mills worked for 16 hours i.e., two shifts of 8 hours each. In these mills the hours of work were so arranged that workers got a recess period of 4 hours after working for four hours. Only two mills worked multiple shifts. In these mills three shifts were worked. The shift hours were so

arranged that from Monday to Friday workers in each shift worked for 8 hours a day and on Saturday only for 2½ hours.

The hours of work in jute mills in other States are 8 per day and 48 per week. The duration of rest interval or recess given to workers in different units varies from half an hour to 4 hours. Only the Madras mill works 1 shift. Rest of the units work two or more shifts. Wherever two or more shifts are worked the practice generally is to transfer workers from one shift to another after a week or a fortnight. None of the units in any of the States pay any allowance to night shift workers.

Working Conditions.—From the information supplied by the various units it would appear that there has been no material change in the working conditions in the mills since the Labour Investigation Committee reported. Only one mill (in U. P.) has made cooling arrangements. This mill is air conditioned. Three units (two in U. P. and one in Madras) have installed exhaust fans. Dust extractors have been installed only in two units—one in U. P. and one in Madras.

In West Bengal 50 per cent. of the units have provided rest shelters for their employees. None of the units in Bihar have built rest shelters. In U. P. two out of the three units have built rest shelters. Information is available in respect of one unit in Madras. In this unit two rest shelters have been built.

Almost all the units have stated that they have provided taps for purposes of drinking water. Two units in U. P. have, however, stated in their replies that they have made arrangements for the supply of cool drinking water during summer. From the information supplied by the Indian Jute Mills Association it would appear that units in West Bengal have increased the number of taps since the Labour Investigation Committee submitted their report. The West Bengal mills are reported to be making arrangements for the supply of cool drinking water. With the exception of two units in U. P. none of the mills has provided bathing facilities for their employees.

Except for those whose nature of work entails seating arrangement, seats have not been provided by the mills to the workers.

Standing Orders and Works Committees.—Standing orders have been framed by all the units for regulating the conditions of service of the workers. With the exception of one unit in Madras, all the units have set up works committees. From the report of the Indian Jute Mills Association for the year 1948 it would appear that these committees are proving useful.

Leave and Holidays with Pay.—In addition to leave and holidays with pay for which provision exists in the Factories Act, some of the units grant other holidays and leave with pay to their employees. The member mills of the Indian Jute Mills Association usually grant 8 festival holidays with pay to their employees every year. In Madras workers are entitled to 10 days' sick leave on half pay during the year. They also get 10 festival holidays with full pay every year. In Bihar one unit allows sick leave for 15 days on half pay and full dearness allowance and privilege leave for 5 days on full pay and dearness allowance during the year. The other unit allows sick leave up to the extent of 15 days during a year on half pay. Sick leave is usually granted on the production of a medical certificate. In U. P. none of the mills grant leave or holidays in addition to what has been prescribed under the Factories Act.

Wages and Earnings.—Since 1944-45, when the Labour Investigation Committee conducted its survey, there has been appreciable improvement in the wages and earnings of workers employed in almost all the centres of the industry. In West Bengal, which accounts for over 90 per cent. of the labour force employed in the industry, the minimum basic wage in 1945 was Rs. 2-8-0 per week. During the year 1946, however, increases up to 15 per cent. of the basic wages were granted to the workers. In 1948, as a result of an award of an Industrial Tribunal appointed by the Government of West Bengal the entire wage structure was revised and workers got substantial relief. The Tribunal fixed Rs. 26 as the minimum basic wage. In Madras also as a result of an award of an Industrial Tribunal in March 1950 the minimum basic wages of workers were increased considerably. The least paid worker in Nellimarla and Chittivalsah in 1944 was getting approximately annas 7 per day as basic wages. In March 1950 the Tribunal fixed the minimum daily basic wage of workers at annas twelve. Although wages of workers in U. P. mills have not been subject to revision by Adjudicators since the Labour Investigation Committee reported, the available information shows that during recent years there has been some improvement.

In none of the mills is there a system of graded or time scale promotions for workers. In the member mills of the Indian Jute Mills Association, however, scales of pay for mistries have been fixed. Similarly, in Nellimarla mills fitters are given annual increments. The following tabular statement shows average basic wages and earnings of workers in different occupations in different centres during April 1950.

*Average Basic Wages and Earnings of Workers in the Jute Mill Industry **
(for a month of 26 working days)

Category	WEST BENGAL†		U. P.				MADRAS		BIHAR	
	Earnings		(Unit No. 1)		(Unit No. 2)		Basic wages	Earnings	Basic wages	Earnings
	Rs. AS. PS.	Rs. AS. PS.	Rs. AS. PS.	Rs. AS. PS.	Rs. AS. PS.	Rs. AS. PS.				
1. Jute selectors	35 12 0	68 4 0	32 12 0	80 0 3	23 9 0	67 13 6	21 11 3	48 14 3	38 0 10	68 8 4
2. Jute cutters	—	—	16 4 0	60 6 3	15 11 3	59 15 9	20 4 6	47 7 5	25 6 3	55 13 9
3. Softner feeders and receivers	26 0 0	58 8 0	16 4 0	60 6 3	12 3 0	56 7 6	19 8 0	46 11 0	24 6 0	54 13 6
4. Breaker feeders and receivers	27 1 3	59 9 3	12 6 9	56 1 3	12 3 0	56 7 6	19 8 0	46 11 0	25 6 3	55 13 9
5. Finisher feeders and receivers	26 0 0	58 8 0	12 3 0	55 12 9	12 3 0	56 7 6	—	—	25 6 3	55 13 9
6. Drawing feeders and receivers	26 0 0	58 8 0	12 3 0	55 12 9	12 3 0	56 7 6	19 8 0	46 11 0	24 6 0	54 13 6
7. Roving feeders	26 0 0	58 8 0	17 15 9	62 9 9	12 11 9	57 0 3	19 8 0	46 11 0	24 6 0	54 13 6
8. Rovers	30 5 3	62 13 3	23 14 3	68 15 3	20 11 0	64 15 0	22 12 0	49 15 0	28 7 0	58 14 6
9. Spinners	33 9 3	66 1 3	20 3 6	64 13 3	21 2 6	65 7 0	25 3 6	52 6 6	31 7 9	61 15 3
10. Spinning shifters	—	—	12 3 0	55 12 9	15 2 9	59 7 3	19 8 0	46 11 0	26 6 6	56 14 0
11. Cop winders	—	—	18 7 9	62 15 6	19 7 0	63 11 3	27 5 3	54 8 3	33 9 4	64 0 10
12. Warp or roll winders	32 8 0	65 0 0	20 14 9	65 15 3	15 9 9	60 0 3	18 6 3	45 9 3	30 14 0	61 5 6
13. Beaters	40 1 3	72 9 3	27 7 9	71 13 3	27 5 9	71 10 3	28 8 9	55 11 9	32 8 0	62 15 6
14. Weavers	49 10 8	82 5 4	26 6 6	72 14 3	21 1 0	65 6 9	37 7 2	64 10 0	39 0 0	60 7 6
15. Machine sowers	39 0 0	71 8 0	39 8 3	86 13 3	25 13 9	71 2 3	—	—	29 12 8	60 4 2
16. Hand sowers	28 2 9	60 10 9	15 6 6	58 6 9	17 15 9	62 4 0	—	—	25 7 4	55 14 10
17. Mazdoors (male)	26 0 0	58 8 0	15 0 6	59 0 9	12 3 0	56 8 6	19 8 0	46 11 0	24 6 0	54 13 6

*Data relate to April, 1950.

†Figures relate to minimum basic wages and minimum earnings.

All the units which have sent their replies pay dearness allowance to their employees. However, it is only in U. P. that dearness allowance is linked to the cost of living index. In U. P. the units pay a fixed sum of annas five per day if the Kanpur index figure remains up to 200. If the cost of living figure rises above 200 they pay an additional sum calculated at the following rate :

<i>Kanpur Cost of Living Index</i>	<i>Dearness Allowance</i>
From 201 up to 300	1 pie per point.
Above 300	1.2 pies per point.

In April 1950 all the three units in U.P. paid approximately Rs. 1-10-0 per day as dearness allowance to their employees.

Till September 1948, no dearness allowance was being paid in jute mills in West Bengal. Instead of dearness allowance the workers were receiving an allowance called the amenity allowance. They were also getting food grains at concession rates. In August 1948 the amenity allowance was paid at the rate of Rs. 19-8-0 per month and the money value of food concessions was calculated to be Rs. 8-10-9 per month. The Industrial Tribunal which was appointed by the Government of West Bengal to settle the dispute between the employers and employees in the industry examined the question of dearness allowance and recommended the payment of dearness allowance instead of amenity allowance at a flat rate of Rs. 32-8-0 per month. Out of this sum, Rs. 23-13-3 represented dearness allowance proper and Rs. 8-10-9 represented the value of food concessions. The workers had demanded the abolition of the mill ration shops. The Tribunal did not favour the abolition of ration shops but in deference to the wishes of the workers it recommended that if in any mill a substantial majority of workers favoured the abolition of ration shops and demanded the cash value of food concessions, in such mills the wishes of the workers should be respected. From the latest available information it would appear that, with the exception of 3 mills, ration shops in all the mills in West Bengal have been closed as desired by the workers and the mills are now paying a consolidated dearness allowance at the rate of Rs. 32-8-0 per month.

In Bihar both the units are paying dearness allowance at a flat rate of Rs. 30-7-6 per month. In Madras dearness allowance is being paid at a flat rate of Rs. 22-12-0 per month.

In addition to dearness allowance some of the units pay some other allowances or bonuses. One of the units in U. P. pays grain allowance at the rate of Re. 0-1-3 per day of attendance. With the exception of units in West Bengal and Bihar, units in the other centres pay profit bonus (or gratuity as some of them call it) to their employees if there is sufficient profit. There is no fixed rate for the payment of such bonus.

All the units in West Bengal and Bihar pay compensation to workers for periods of temporary unemployment caused by temporary stoppages of work due to breakdown of machinery, shortage of raw material, etc. The standing orders framed by the mills provide that during such periods of involuntary unemployment a worker shall be paid at the rate of 50 per cent. of the basic wages

and of the dearness allowance and that each worker shall continue to receive weekly rations at the normal subsidised rates or the cash value of the food concession. The duration of the benefits is one month in each half year from January to June and July to December. Certain conditions have been attached to the payment of the benefit. The most important among them are : (1) the workers must answer a muster roll once a day at their usual place of employment, and (2) they must not refuse alternative employment if offered to them. In U. P. and Madras workers are paid their usual wages in cases of stoppages of work for the period of detention in the mill premises. In U. P. workers are paid if the period of detention exceeds two hours. In Madras payments are made if the period of detention exceeds one hour.

Housing.—There appears to have been no appreciable change in the position regarding housing in West Bengal since the Labour Investigation Committee submitted their report. In U. P. one of the mills (in Kanpur) has now built a colony and has provided accommodation for 171 employees. The colony is *pucca* built and well laid out. The mill charges rent varying from Re. 1 to Rs. 3 per month from workers and Rs. 12 to Rs. 16-4-0 per month from clerks. The accommodation varies from 1 to 3 rooms in each tenement. The other two units also have provided housing accommodation to 25 to 28 per cent. of their employees. One of these units has built 125 *pucca* quarters consisting of one room and a verandah. The rent charged varies from Rs. 2 to Rs. 2-8-0 per month. The other unit has built 99 *pucca* and 97 *kutcha* quarters. Each quarter consists of one room and a verandah. The monthly rent for *pucca* quarters is Re. 1 and for *kutcha* quarters it is annas 12. In Bihar one of the units has provided accommodation to 16 per cent. of its employees. The quarters have been built of *kutcha* bricks and have tiled roofs. Each quarter has one room and a verandah and the monthly rent is annas 8. The second unit has provided accommodation to 42 per cent. of its employees. Ninety per cent. of the houses are *pucca* and the rent charged generally is annas 4 per room per month. Information regarding only one unit in Madras is available. This unit has provided accommodation to 20 per cent. of its employees. The rent varies from Re. 1 to Rs. 4-8-0 per month depending upon the type of the quarter.

Welfare.—All the units have appointed Labour Officers. Some of the units have designated them as Personnel Officers or Welfare Officers. These Officers are generally responsible for the recruitment of workers, maintenance of their service records and for welfare and recreational activities. They also enquire into the grievances of the workers and, if necessary, take part in the conciliation of disputes. Some of the mills in West Bengal have also appointed Women Labour Officers for the benefit of women workers.

Medical facility is being provided by all the units of the industry. All of them maintain dispensaries in charge of either a full-time or a part-time doctor. To provide additional facilities to workers, the Indian Jute Mills Association gives regular donations to hospitals in the industrial areas and also to various hospitals in

West Bengal. One unit in Madras is maintaining two welfare clinics and a maternity home in addition to a dispensary.

One unit each in U. P., Bihar and Madras and 25 units in West Bengal have opened canteens. In West Bengal, it is understood that canteens are at present under construction in a number of mills. Cooked meals are being served only in the canteen in the Madras unit. In all other canteens only tea and snacks are being sold.

Two units in U. P., one each in Bihar and Madras and more than 30 in West Bengal maintain crèches. In order to comply with the provisions of the Factories Act, arrangements are being made by the remaining mills in West Bengal to open crèches. From the annual report of the Indian Jute Mills Association it would appear that all the existing crèches in West Bengal mills are reasonably furnished, properly supervised and are becoming popular among the working mothers.

During the year 1949 there were 30 schools run by individual mills in West Bengal. In these schools free education was given to children. It is understood that recently some more schools have been opened by the individual mills. In some of the welfare centres opened by the Indian Jute Mills Association arrangements have been made for the education of workers' children. During the year 1949 approximately 800 children received education at 5 welfare centre schools of the Indian Jute Mills Association. Arrangements have also been made at some of the welfare centres for adult education. In some of the centres library facilities have also been provided. Sewing and cooking classes have been organised by the Indian Jute Mills Association for the benefit of girls. In U. P. only one unit has made arrangements for the free primary education of workers' children. Educational facilities have been provided by two out of the three units in Bihar which have supplied information. One of the two units has opened an upper primary school where free education is given to workers' children. The other unit runs two primary schools. In both the units night classes have been organised for adult education. The Nellimarla Mill in Madras has opened two schools for the benefit of children of the workers.

In West Bengal during the year 1949 there were 10 welfare centres run by individual mills. Recently, it is understood, some more centres have been opened. In addition to the centres opened by the individual mills, 6 welfare centres have been opened by the Indian Jute Mills Association. In these centres facilities for indoor and outdoor games have been provided. These centres are also supplied with newspapers and some of the centres have organised their own libraries. Provision for indoor and outdoor games exists in many mills and sports and games for different zones are organised by the Indian Jute Mills Association. Welfare activities specially for women are also organised by the Women Labour Officer appointed by the Association. With the exception of one unit (in U. P.) all other units in U. P., Bihar and Madras have also provided recreational facilities for their employees. They have generally opened clubs and have made arrangements for indoor and outdoor games.

At the time the Labour Investigation Committee conducted the survey, almost all the jute mills had opened grainshops where food grains were sold at concession rates. From the recent information it would appear that only 3 units in West Bengal and 1 each in Bihar and Madras are at present selling food grains at concession rates. In West Bengal, as stated earlier, most of the mills stopped the sale of food grains at concession rates because the workers decided to take the money value of food concessions. The mill grain shops in West Bengal, however, are still selling Government rationed articles at controlled rates. One unit in U. P. runs a shop where things of daily requirements are sold at concession rates.

Provision for the future.—In January 1949 a Provident Fund Scheme was introduced in all the member mills of the Indian Jute Mills Association in West Bengal. Under this scheme every permanent employee with 12 months' continuous service is entitled to become a member of the Fund. Both the employers and employees make equal contributions to the Fund. The rate of contribution is $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. of salary or wages. No details regarding the number of workers who are members of the Fund are available. By virtue of an award of an Industrial Tribunal a similar scheme was introduced in one of the units in Bihar with effect from 1st April 1950. In this unit 1902 persons were members of the Fund during 1950. A Provident Fund Scheme has been introduced in two of the units in Madras as a result of a recommendation made by the Industrial Tribunal in March 1950. The scheme recommended by the Tribunal is similar to the one in force in jute mills in West Bengal. In U.P. only one unit has introduced a Provident Fund Scheme. The membership of the Fund is open to all permanent employees who get at least Rs. 37 per month as basic salary. The rate of contribution is 1 anna in the rupee of the basic earnings. The rules governing the scheme provide that the minimum contribution of the company will be 1 per cent. of the aggregate subscription of the members but the company may contribute more. During the year 1949 the company contributed the same amount as was contributed by the members. In April 1950, 185 persons were members of the Fund.

With the exception of the unit in U. P. all other units which have Provident Fund Schemes also pay gratuity on retirement or death of an employee. The system of paying gratuity in these mills has been started as a result of recommendations of Industrial Tribunals. In all the units in West Bengal and in two units in Madras gratuity is being paid at the following rates: (a) On retirement after at least 15 years' continuous service—at the rate of half a month's basic wages for each completed year of service subject to a maximum of 15 months' basic wages. (b) On retirement before completing 15 years' service by reason of superannuation on medical grounds or owing to any other sufficient cause approved by the employer in this behalf—at the rate of half a month's basic wages for each completed year of service. (c) On death—at the rate of half a month's basic wages for each completed year of service subject to a maximum of 15 months' basic wages.

In Bihar, the mill pays gratuity at the rate of half a month's wages for each completed year of service. The gratuity scheme is of a complementary character and is designed to meet the needs of old employees who would not derive much benefit from the Provident Fund which was introduced in April 1950.

Among Indian industries the jute mill industry was probably hit the hardest by the partition of India in 1947 because, while the major portion of the jute producing areas fell in East Pakistan, all the jute mills are in the Indian Union. Ever since the partition of India the industry has been experiencing difficulties in procuring raw jute. The situation, however, became most critical in 1949 due to the devaluation of the Indian rupee and the consequent dislocation of trade between India and Pakistan. To meet the situation and to keep the industry going various measures were adopted by the Indian Jute Mills Association. The most important among them were the sealing of looms and reduction in the working hours. Details regarding these have already been given above. These factors, however, affected production.

Compared to other organised industries, the jute mill industry has been comparatively free from industrial unrest. However, although there have been no general strikes since 1946, there have been a number of sporadic strikes. The following tabular statement shows the number of stoppages and man-days lost due to strikes and lockouts during 1939, 1946 and subsequent years.

Year	No. of stoppages	Man-days lost
1939	51	991,676
1946	95	1,877,710
1947	68	1,395,716
1948	46	1,107,917
1949	20	563,341
1950	27	434,050

After the general strike of 1938, the industry suffered the biggest time loss in 1946 when as a result of a cut in rations about 40 per cent. of the jute mill workers in Bengal went on a strike causing a loss of nearly 19 lakhs of man-days. Since 1948 the position has improved considerably and during 1950 the time loss suffered by the industry was only 4.3 lakhs of mandays.

REPORTS AND ENQUIRIES

REPORT ON AN ENQUIRY INTO THE CONDITIONS OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS IN VILLAGE ARCHIKARAHALLI IN MYSORE STATE IN 1949

The Ministry of Labour of the Government of India are now conducting an All-India enquiry into the conditions of agricultural workers in 813 villages selected on the basis of stratified random sampling. Prior to the conduct of the main enquiry in these villages a preliminary enquiry was conducted, in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee of Economists and Statisticians attached to the Cabinet Secretariat, in 27 villages—3 in Madras, 5 in West Bengal, 4 in Bihar, 2 in Assam, 8 in Uttar Pradesh, 2 in Madhya Pradesh, 2 in Orissa and 1 in Mysore, during the period June, 1949, to November, 1949, with a view to testing the questionnaire drawn up for the enquiry, amplifying the instructions to the field staff getting an idea of the time taken and the nature of the field staff required.

The Ministry of Labour have now published the third of a series of monographs relating to the preliminary enquiry conducted in village Archikarahalli in the Mysore State in 1949*. The data collected relate to the previous agricultural year, and as pointed out in the preface "considering the illiteracy and short memory of the villagers the data collected could only be regarded as a first approximation and would be of value to throw some light into the standards of living of agricultural workers though it may not form the basis for any general conclusion".

The report consists of two parts—Part-I contains certain basic information for the village as a whole like the total population, land utilisation, irrigation, methods of cultivation, size of holdings, crops grown, agricultural calendar, wages and hours of work of agricultural workers, their consumption habits, housing conditions, subsidiary occupations and a brief description of the village administration and cooperative societies. Part II contains the results of the factual survey. These are summarised below:—

- (i) The total population of the village was 557, of whom 162 were adult men, 147 adult women and 248 children.
- (ii) There were 86 families of which 49 or 57 per cent. were agricultural families and 37 or 43 per cent. were non-agricultural. Sixteen were families of cultivating owners, 25 families of agricultural workers with land.

*A summary of the first two Reports (Conditions in Vandalur and Dorwan villages) has been published on pp. 101-5 of August, 1951 issue of this Gazette.

and 8 were families of agricultural workers without land. All the 33 families of agricultural workers consisted of casual workers.

- (iii) The average size of the family was 6.5 persons for the village as a whole, consisting of 2.2 earners, 1.1 helpers and 3.2 dependants. The average size of the 25 agricultural workers' families with land was 5.9 consisting of 2.7 earners, 0.2 helpers and 3.0 dependants. As regards the 8 agricultural workers' families without land, the average size of the family was 4.8 consisting of 2.8 earners and 2.0 dependants. Taking all the agricultural workers' families together, the average size came to 5.6 with a standard error of 3.4 and a coefficient of variation of 61.1 per cent.
- (iv) The holdings of the village were small, 23.3 per cent. being below 2 acres, 43.4 per cent. between 2 to 5 acres, 21.7 per cent. between 5 to 10 acres and only 11.6 per cent., 10 acres and above.
- (v) The rates of daily wages for casual workers were generally Re. 1/- for men, Re. -/12/- for women and Re. -/8/- for a child below 15 years. Wages were usually paid in cash but in special cases they were paid in *ragi* which were calculated at the rate of 3 seers per rupee.
- (vi) The agricultural workers' families with land earned on an average an income of Rs. 427.4 per annum as against the annual expenditure of Rs. 487.9. Work in the fields fetched on an average Rs. 206.6 or 48.3 per cent. The annual income per agricultural worker's family without land was Rs. 421.7 as against an annual expenditure of Rs. 468.8. Of the total income, Rs. 228.9 or 54.2 per cent. came from work in the fields.
- (vii) Taking all the agricultural workers' families together the average annual income per earner came to Rs. 158 with a standard error of Rs. 37.3 and a co-efficient of variation of 22.6 per cent.
- (viii) On an average, the number of days for which the agricultural workers with land were employed for wages was 121 in the case of men, of which agricultural work accounted for 80 days and other non-agricultural work for the remaining 41 days. As regards workers without land, they were employed on an average for 176 days of which agricultural work alone provided employment for only 96 days and other non-agricultural work for the remaining 80 days.
- (ix) The agricultural worker's diet was poor both in quality and quantity. Further, it varied considerably during the different seasons. On an average, the expenditure per agricultural worker's family with land was Rs. 487.9 as against an annual income of Rs. 427.4. The expenditure on food was the highest being 71.1 per cent.

of the total. The expenditure on different groups and their percentage to the total are given below :—

Group	Expenditure	Percentage to total
	Rs.	
Food	347.1	71.1
Clothing and footwear	79.7	16.3
Fuel and lighting	12.1	2.5
House rent	2.8	0.6
Miscellaneous	46.2	9.5
Total	487.9	100.0

(x) In so far as agricultural workers' families without land were concerned, the average annual expenditure comes to Rs. 468.7 as against an annual income of Rs. 421.7. Expenditure on food accounted for 73.5 per cent. of the total. The expenditure on the different groups and the percentages to the total were as follows :—

Group	Expenditure	Percentage to total
	Rs.	
Food	344.7	73.5
Clothing and footwear	65.1	13.9
Fuel and lighting	13.2	2.8
Repairs	0.5	0.1
Services and miscellaneous	45.2	9.7
Total	468.7	100.0

(xi) The annual average consumption of cereals and pulses per casual worker's family with land amounted to 33.2 mds. of cereals (made up of 0.8 mds. of rice, 31.7 mds. of *ragi* and 0.7 mds. of wheat) and 1.5 mds. of pulses. In the case of workers' families without land, the annual average consumption came to 30.0 mds. of cereals (made up of 0.1 mds. of rice, 29.0 mds. of *ragi*, 0.9 mds. of wheat) and 1.7 mds. of pulses. Taking all the agricultural workers' families together the average expenditure per consumption unit came to Rs. 127.5 with a standard error of Rs. 46.4 and a co-efficient of variation of 36.4 per cent.

(xii) Of the 25 agricultural workers' families with land, 19 were in debt, the average debt per indebted family being Rs. 145.3. Of the eight agricultural workers' families without land, 6 were in debt, the average debt per indebted family being Rs. 96.7.

(xiii) The report reveals that it is a Ryotwari village and the nearest Railway station is $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles away from it. The Government Middle School, the Municipal High School,

Civil and Veterinary Hospitals, the Police Station and the Post Office are all located at the Taluk headquarters which is at a distance of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles away.*

WAGE INCENTIVE SCHEMES†

The main forms of wage payment in industry are described in this survey of wage incentive schemes. These are payment by time and payment by piece or by results; but in many cases remuneration is based on a combination of these methods. Time rates are usually in the form of hourly rates or weekly rates for a specified number of hours. Piecework rates are in the form either of prices fixed for units of work or of times allowed for units of work. The piecework prices and the times allowed may relate either to the work of an individual or to the work of a group or squad. The remuneration may be either in the form of "straight piecework" i.e. a uniform price per unit of work over the whole output, or in the form of "differential piecework", in which case, the rates may be either progressive or regressive.

The most common form of wage payment—that based on a time rate—provides no direct incentive to the individual worker to make the fullest use of his knowledge and ability. A strong movement has accordingly developed in industry towards the adoption of systems of remuneration which recognise individual ability and effort and make provision for them to be measured and rewarded in establishments where that is practicable.

Certain safeguards have been devised to remove the suspicion with which the systems of payment by results were regarded initially, and to protect the workers' position under such systems. Important of these are :

- (1) Joint consultation between employers and workpeople.
- (2) Arrangement whereby, whatever the earnings may be under any system of payment by results, there is a guarantee of basic time wage for the period worked.
- (3) Inclusion of a provision, whereby the piece rates are so arranged as to ensure that the worker of average ability will be able to earn a specified percentage over time wages or that the piece prices shall be such as will normally yield specified weekly or hourly amounts which are at an appropriately higher level than the ordinary time rates.

Other safeguards consist in conditions governing the process of fixing the piece rates or subsequent changes in these rates by mutual agreement.

*It has been made clear in the author's preface to this Report that the views expressed in the Report are not of the Ministry of Labour.

†A summary of *Wage Incentive Schemes*, Industrial Relations Handbook, Supplement No. 4, H. M. Stationery Office, 1951, price 1 s. 6 d. net.

The survey reviews in brief the various systems of payment by results on an individual basis, including what are called premium bonus systems, and collective schemes of payment by results applicable to a gang or team or to a whole department of a factory or a whole establishment.

The survey concludes : "there are certain qualities which an incentive scheme should possess if it is to fulfil the purpose for which it was designed. Such schemes must fit in with the collective agreements and working rules in operation in the particular industry ; in addition some of the more important features which are characteristic of good incentive schemes may be enumerated as follows :

- (1) Additional rewards result from extra effort and are confined as far as possible to those who do in fact put out extra effort. The scheme is not merely a disguised form of wage increase.
- (2) Careful study of each job is undertaken before fixing piecework prices or basic times, so that errors in rate-fixing may be avoided. Similarly piece prices that have become unrealistic through lapse of time or change of circumstances are adjusted by agreement.
- (3) The scheme is based on joint consultation at all stages between management and workers or their representatives so that all parties have full confidence in the arrangements.
- (4) Increased output is not to be obtained at the expense of the quality of the product or at the cost of excessive fatigue or strain.
- (5) Where collective, as opposed to individual, incentive payments are concerned, the reward is not to be too remote from the effort which earns it. Bonuses are therefore paid at intervals as short as possible".

The two appendices to the survey give brief summaries of a few selected schemes in operation at the present time in different industries, and statistics showing the extent to which payment by results obtains in different industries.

LABOUR LAWS AND DECISIONS

LAWS

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1948

(a) *Welfare Officers (Recruitment and Conditions of Service) Rules, 1951*.—The Governments of Hyderabad, Travancore-Cochin and Kutch, in exercise of the powers conferred by Sections 49 and 50 of the Factories Act, have published drafts of the above-mentioned rules in their official *Gazettes** for eliciting public opinion.

(b) *The Madhya Bharat Factories Rules, 1951*.—The text of the above-mentioned rules which the Government of Madhya Bharat have, in exercise of the powers conferred by the Factories Act, 1948 made, has been published in a supplement to the *Madhya Bharat Government Gazette*, dated the 18th August, 1951.

THE INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS (LABOUR) RULES, 1951 (MYSORE)

The draft of the above mentioned rules which the Government of Mysore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 12 of the Industrial Statistics Act, 1942, propose to make has been published in the *Mysore Gazette*, dated the 2nd August, 1951, for eliciting public opinion.

MYSORE TRADE UNIONS REGULATIONS, 1951

The draft of the above mentioned regulations, which the Government of Mysore, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 29 of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, propose to make, has been published in the *Mysore Gazette (Extraordinary)*, dated 7th August, 1951 for eliciting public opinion.

THE INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES (UTTAR PRADESH AMENDMENT) BILL, 1951

The English translation of the draft of the above mentioned Bill, which the Government of U.P. propose to introduce in the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly, has been published in the U.P. *Gazette (Extraordinary)* dated 20th August, 1951. The Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill reads as follows :—

“Owing to the amendment of section 7 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 on the 26th June, 1951, necessity is felt

**Hyderabad Gazette (Ordinary)*, dated 16th August 1951; *Travancore-Cochin Gazette*, dated 21st August 1951; and *Kutch Government Gazette*, dated 16th April, 1951.

to amend the provisions of the said Act in its application to Uttar Pradesh as in certain respects the Tribunals appointed or to be appointed in Uttar Pradesh do not and will not fulfil all the requirements of the Central Act".

THE HYDERABAD SHOPS AND ESTABLISHMENTS RULES, 1951

The text of the above mentioned rules which H. E. H. the Nizam, in exercise of powers conferred by Section 47 of the Hyderabad Shops and Establishments Act, 1951, has been pleased to make, has been published in the *Hyderabad Gazette (Ordinary)*, dated 16th August 1951.

THE MYSORE INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT (STANDING ORDERS) RULES, 1951

The draft of the above mentioned rules, which the Government of Mysore, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 15 of the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, propose to make, has been published in the *Mysore Gazette* dated 23rd August, 1951, for eliciting public opinion.

THE EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE ACT, 1948

(a) *Employees' Insurance Court Rules, 1951 (Bombay and Madras).*—The texts of the above rules, which the Governments of Bombay and Madras, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 96 of the above mentioned Act, have made have been published in the *Bombay Government Gazette*, dated 26th July 1951 and the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 7th August, 1951.

(b) *The Kutch Employees' State Insurance (Medical Benefit) Rules, 1951.*—In exercise of the powers conferred by clauses (d) to (h) of section 96 of the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, read with the Government of India, Ministry of States, Notification No. 104-J, dated 24th August, 1950, the Chief Commissioner for Kutch proposes to make the above mentioned rules, the draft of which has been published in the *Kutch Gazette*, dated 16th August, 1951, for the information of the public. It has been notified that the draft would be taken into final consideration on or after 1st October, 1951.

THE MINIMUM WAGES ACT, 1948

(a) The Government of West Bengal, in exercise of the powers conferred by Sections 13 and 14 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, have fixed* the hours of work constituting a normal working day, the period of interval of rest, the day for weekly rest and the rate of overtime for employees in the tobacco (*bidi* making and cigarette

*Labour Department (West Bengal) Notifications Nos. 4758 Lab. and 4759 Lab. dated 30th July 1951, as published in the *Calcutta Gazette*, dated 9th August, 1951.

making) manufactories in the State of West Bengal, as specified in the following schedule :

- “1. Eight working hours including interval of rest for half an hour shall constitute a normal working day and six such working days shall constitute a week ; provided that all or any section of employees in any tobacco (*bidi* making and cigarette making) manufactory may be required by the employer to work up to nine hours on any days subject to the weekly limit of 48 hours. Work in any tobacco (*bidi* making and cigarette making) manufactory shall be subject to the conditions laid down in Chapters VI and VII of the Factories Act, 1948 (LXIII of 1948).
2. The periods of work of adult workers shall be so fixed that no period shall exceed five hours and that no employee shall work for more than five hours before he has had an interval of rest for at least half an hour.
3. Sunday shall be ordinarily the day for weekly rest.
4. For work beyond normal working hours the employees shall be paid at double the ordinary rate of wages, which shall be in accordance with the provisions of section 59 of the Factories Act, 1948 (LXIII of 1948)”.

(b) The draft of certain proposals relating to minimum rates of wages payable to the classes of employees specified in the schedule annexed to the draft, and employees in the Port of Calcutta, which the Government of India propose to fix in pursuance of clause (a) of sub-section (1) of Section 3, read with clause (i) of sub-section (1) of Section 4 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, has been published in the *Gazette of India*, dated 4th August, 1951 for eliciting public opinion. It has been notified that the draft would be taken into consideration on or after 15th October, 1951, along with any objections or suggestions which might be received before that date.

DECISIONS

JUDGMENT UNDER THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT
IS A BUILDING INSPECTOR EMPLOYED BY A
CORPORATION A 'WORKMAN'?

DECISION OF THE CALCUTTA HIGH COURT*

A Building Inspector employed by the Calcutta Corporation in the Building City Architect Department was attacked by a riotous mob and killed in August, 1947 when he was out in connection with his work. The monthly wages of the deceased were between Rs. 200 and Rs. 300 and the widow as a dependant claimed a sum of Rs. 4,000 as compensation. The Calcutta Corporation admitted that the Inspector was killed by a riotous mob whilst following his employment and also that the killing amounted to an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment. They, however, denied that the deceased was a 'workman' within the meaning of the term as used in the Workmen's Compensation Act. The Commissioner under the Workmen's Compensation Act upheld the contention of the corporation and dismissed the application.

Against this decision the widow preferred an appeal to the High Court. The only question for consideration before the High Court was whether the deceased was a 'workman' as defined in the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923. The term 'workman' is defined in section 2(1)(n) of the Workmen's Compensation Act as under :

" 'Workman' means any person (other than a person whose employment is of a casual nature and who is employed otherwise than for the purposes of the employer's trade or business) who is—

* * * * *

(ii) employed on monthly wages not exceeding four hundred rupees, in any such capacity as is specified in Schedule II".

Clause (viii) (a) of Schedule II reads : "employed in the construction, repair or demolition of any building

It was contended on behalf of the appellant that the deceased was employed by the Corporation in the construction, repair or demolition of buildings, and came within the definition of a 'workman'. The respondent, however, urged that the deceased was a Building Inspector employed by the Corporation to see that all the rules and regulations relating to building, repairing or demolishing are observed, i.e., not by the Corporation, but by the builders and contractors. The Building Inspector was not concerned with the property belonging to the Corporation. The building, repairing and demolishing of the Corporation property was in the hands of the Engineering Department.

Examining the points raised by the parties, Chief Justice Harries observed : " 'Employed in the construction' means not necessarily

* The full judgment is reported in the *Calcutta Weekly Notes*, Vol. LV, No. 24 at page 496.

actually employed to construct, but employed in connection with the construction. The Building Inspector however is employed by the Corporation which has nothing to do with the construction. He is merely employed by the Corporation to see that those who are concerned in the construction are building according to the plans sanctioned and the bye-laws of the Corporation.....It is clear that in these duties he is not employed by the party constructing any building, and I do not think it can be said that he was employed in the construction of such buildings. To be employed in the construction of such buildings it appears to me that the deceased would have had to be employed by whoever was responsible for the construction."

It was argued on behalf of the appellant that in a case where the owner of an offending property did not demolish such property, the Corporation was by law entitled to do so. In such a case when the Corporation was demolishing it, the Inspector would be employed in the demolition. The Chief Justice did not agree with the argument and remarked that the demolition even when done at the instance of the Corporation was done through the contractors and the Inspector was not an employee of the contractors who did the work. All that he had to do was to report that the work had been done.

Examining the term 'workman' the Chief Justice observed : "It appears to me that in coming to the conclusion whether a man is or is not a workman, his ordinary work must be regarded. Persons may on very rare occasions do something that might bring them within the category of workmen, but the question which has to be decided is, whether the work in which they are substantially employed is work which brings them within the category of workmen. It appears to me that the work which this man was employed to do was substantially work that would not bring him within that category."

Concluding the case, the Chief Justice held : "I think it would be stretching the phrase 'employed in the construction, repair or demolition unduly to hold that the deceased man was so employed. I do not think it can be said even that he was employed in supervising the construction, repair or demolition. He had no authority at all over the persons who were actually building or the persons who were employing them. All he could do, when he noticed a breach of the law, was to report it to his employers, the Corporation, who would take such action as it thought proper".

The appeal was, therefore, dismissed, but in the circumstances of the case no order as to costs was made.

HOLIDAYS WITH PAY AND COMPENSATION FOR INVOLUNTARY UNEMPLOYMENT AWARDED TO WORKERS IN A RUBBER ESTATE

In the matter of a dispute between the employer and workmen of the Vellanikkara and Thattil Rubber Estate, Trichur, referred to it by the Government of Travancore-Cochin, the Industrial Tribunal held that rubber estate labour would not come under the definition of industry on account of the difference in the definition of industry in the Central and State Acts and it had, therefore, no jurisdiction to pass an award on points of dispute concerning estate labour. In appeal by the labour union the Appellate Tribunal (Bombay) held

that estate labour also came within the definition of industry and remanded the matter to the Tribunal. Later, however, the parties came to a settlement and the Tribunal gave its award in terms of the agreement. The main features of the agreement and the award were :

- (1) The wages of a tapper should be Rs. 1-2-6 per day. On days on which tappers could not do tapping on account of rain, they will be paid the grain concession allowance of 5 annas per day.
- (2) Seven holidays with pay (on days specified in the award) should be given to the workers during the year.
- (3) A qualified doctor should be engaged to visit the estate and examine sick labourers, if any, once a week and medicines should be supplied free according to the doctor's prescription. (Award published in the *Travancore-Cochin Gazette*, dated 5th June 1951 ; L4-5677/51/DD dated 25th May, 1951).

LABOUR INTELLIGENCE

INDIAN

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN INDIA DURING JULY, 1951

The number of industrial disputes resulting in work-stoppages showed a slight decline from 146 in June 1951 to 128 in July 1951 and the number of workers involved dropped from 90,241 to 69,152. The resultant time-loss, however, was higher in July being 6,19,368 man-days as compared to 4,35,703 man-days in June.

Eight of the disputes involving 9,991 workers resulted in lock-outs and accounted for a time-loss of 1,19,129 man-days during the month under review.

Among the States, Bombay as usual recorded the largest number of disputes, namely 43 and accounted for a time-loss of over 1½ lakhs of man-days. The largest time-loss of nearly 1.8 lakhs of man-days was however recorded in Madhya Pradesh on account of a major strike in the Pench Valley Coalfields. West Bengal witnessed an appreciable deterioration in the labour situation as the number of disputes increased from 27 in June to 36 in July and the number of man-days lost increased from about 1.32 lakhs in June to 1.67 lakhs in July. The State of Madras recorded a time-loss of 0.94 lakhs of man-days during the month as against 1.24 lakhs of man-days in the previous month.

Among the industries, coal mines recorded the largest time-loss of nearly 1.93 lakhs of man-days during the month. Cotton textiles suffered a loss of 1.36 lakhs of man-days during the month as against 1.55 lakhs of man-days during the previous month. The other industries which suffered considerable time-losses during the month were Engineering and Food, Drink and Tobacco. A table showing the industry-wise distribution of the time-loss during the month with corresponding figures for the previous two months is given below :—

MAN-DAYS LOST DUE TO INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

Industry	July 1951	June 1951	May 1951
Textiles—			
Cotton	136,379	155,271	77,163
Jute	234	4,246	240
Others	2,559	3,370	11,469
Engineering	56,577	39,323	9,325
Minerals and Metals—			
Iron and Steel	6,700	2,740	1,285
Others	15,022	10,056	9,232
Food, Drink and Tobacco	90,743	82,380	10,499
Chemicals and Dyes	27,850	18,357	420
Wood, Stone and Glass	36,782	24,932	10,944
Paper and Printing	49	7,559	920
Skins and Hides	340	—	—
Gins and Presses	—	—	—

MAN-DAYS LOST DUE TO INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES—*contd.*

Industry	July 1951	June 1951	May 1951
Mines—			
Coal	192,948	4,270	16,400
Others	—	6,440	934
Transport—			
Railways	19,190	20,177	19,125
Others	—	—	150
Docks and Ports	1,516	12,676	6,623
Plantations	3,499	1,290	—
Municipalities	3,390	7,329	179
Miscellaneous	25,590	35,287	34,744
Total	6,19,368	435,703	209,652

The most important strike of the month was the one in the Pench Valley Coalfields referred to above. According to the reports of the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), the strike which started on 2nd July under the direction of the C. P. Mine Workers' Union involved about 7,000 workers and lasted till the end of the month. The demands related to recognition of the union, increase in wages and dearness allowance, introduction of time-scales and grades of pay, etc. The strike was reported to have been called off on the 30th July. There were in addition some 6 strikes in the coal-mines in Bihar and 4 in West Bengal during the month under review. In Bombay, a strike in the India United Mills, involving 673 workers directly and 4,655 workers indirectly was in progress since 28th June 1951. The main demand was for employment of all workers likely to be retrenched on account of an intended closure of the 3rd shift or in the alternative payment of compensation to all retrenched workers. The strike was however called off unconditionally on 10th July. Protesting against the suspension of a spinner, about 600 spinners of the Khatau Makanji Spinning and Weaving Co., Bombay went on strike on 7th July. The number of workers directly involved in the strike subsequently increased to 932 and as a result, the whole mill employing 5,148 workers was closed. The strike was declared illegal by the Labour Court and the management put up a notice accordingly on 14th July. The workers thereupon resumed work unconditionally on 16th July. The strike in the Cooper Engineering Works, Satara Road, which started on 12th June and the lockout in the Metal Rolling Works, Bombay which started on 12th May were reported to be in progress throughout the month under review. The lockout of the 42 *bidi* factories at Sholapur which started on 26th June affecting 3,161 workers came to an end on 4th July as a result of a compromise arrived at through direct negotiations. The owners were reported to have agreed to increase the wage rate from Rs. 1/6/- to Rs. 1/10/- per 1,000 *bidis* and to pay Rs. 2 to each *bidi* worker as an *ex-gratia* payment. A strike demanding increase in wages by the workers of 19 *bidi* factories at Petlad during the month was, however, unsuccessful. Towards the end of the month again a new strike was reported in the *bidi* industry at Ahmedabad in protest against a reduction in wage rate from Rs. 3/4/- to Rs. 2/8/- per 1,000 *bidis*. The strike was in progress at the end of the month.

In West Bengal, the lockout of the 24 *bidi* factories at Rani-ganj which started on 11th June affecting about 3,000 workers continued throughout the month under review. The strike in the Oriental Gas Co., Ltd., Calcutta, which started on 13th June involving 1,000 workers also continued throughout July and was finally called off towards the end of the month unconditionally. The strike of 700 workers on the Barasat Basirhat Railway which started on 4th April continued throughout the month without any change. The lockout in the Swadeshi Industries, Panihati was also in progress.

The strike in Sree Meenakshi Mills, Mathurai which started on 18th June involving 2,458 workers directly and 380 workers indirectly over the question of work-load was called off on 15th July following the rejection of workers' appeal by the Labour Appellate Tribunal. The strikes in the Commonwealth Trust Weaving factories at Kozhikode and Cannanore which involved nearly 1,600 workers over a demand for bonus were in progress throughout the month. A strike by 410 workers was reported to be in progress since 21st June in the Madras Glass Works, Madras over the question of an *ex-gratia* payment.

Three strikes were reported during the month in the textile mills in Madhya Pradesh on 26th July over the question of bonus for 1949-50. Over 11 thousand workers participated in the strikes which turned out to be unsuccessful.

Apart from strikes and lockouts resulting from industrial disputes, there were during the month some 11 stoppages not connected with any dispute. Four of these were in Bombay, four were in West Bengal and three were in Bihar. These involved in all 12,335 workers and resulted in a time loss of 15,042 man-days.

LABOUR NEWS FROM STATES FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 1951

Notes on the labour situation during the month of July 1951 have been received from the following 18 States : Ajmer, Assam, Bhopal, Bihar, Bombay, Delhi, Hyderabad, Madhya Bharat, Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Mysore, PEPSU, Punjab, Rajasthan, Saurashtra, Travancore-Cochin, Uttar Pradesh and Vindhya Pradesh. These notes are summarised below :—

The general labour situation in most of the States appeared to be on the whole normal during the month. In Uttar Pradesh it was stated that the situation was somewhat disturbed during the early part of the month but became peaceful later. In some states the employment situation showed some deterioration on account of closures and threats of closures mainly because of shortage of raw materials or on account of accumulation of stocks. In the Ajmer State though there was no stoppage of work the cotton mills were experiencing difficulties in getting raw cotton at ceiling rates fixed

by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay. In Assam and Bihar, shortage of raw materials affected a number of rice and oil mills. In Delhi, one of the textile mills closed down its night shift with effect from 22nd July 1951 on account of shortage of yarn. In Madhya Bharat the employment position showed receding tendency, in view of the closures of some of the textile mills and factories, mainly on account of industrial disputes; in a majority of cases, however, the closures were of short duration. In Saurashtra, some of the establishments were closed down during the month, mainly because of accumulation of stocks. About 50 per cent. of the coir factories in the Chirayinikil Taluk of Travancore-Cochin State were closed down due to slump in the coir market and thus threw out of employment about 25,000 workers. In Uttar Pradesh, 6 closures of factories were reported.

Conciliation and Arbitration.—The Industrial Tribunal, Hyderabad gave its awards in respect of 5 cases. During the month, 5 cases of disputes were taken up for conciliation by the Conciliation Officers under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947; out of these 5 cases, 3 were settled amicably and the remaining 2 were under consideration. Three disputes were referred to the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication during the month. In Madhya Bharat, 7 notices of change were received by the Conciliators under the Industrial Relations Act. These involved retrenchment of 126 workers in Indore. In Madhya Pradesh, the question of bonus for the year 1949-50 in the textile mills in the State has been referred to the State Industrial Court, as the dispute could not be settled by the Tripartite Committee or through conciliation under the C.P. and Berar Industrial Disputes Settlement Act, 1947. In Madras, 15 industrial disputes were referred to Industrial Tribunals for adjudication, while awards in respect of 3 industrial disputes were published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. In PEPSU the State Government have sanctioned the appointment of a Conciliation Board to settle the demands of workers in the Bhupindra Cement Works, Surajpur. In Saurashtra conciliation proceedings were held in 31 cases and all these were successful. In Travancore-Cochin the Conciliation Officers of the State Department held 21 meetings to resolve industrial disputes; of these, 19 meetings ended in amicable settlements.

Enforcement of Labour Acts—(a) *Minimum Wages Act.*—In Delhi directions were issued for grant of an increase in dearness allowance in regard to the minimum rates payable to workers in dal and flour mills. The increase is to take effect from 1st May 1951 and would benefit workers to the extent of Rs. 3 per month. The Minimum Wages Committee of Delhi State commenced its deliberations to consider the fixation of minimum rates for other than unskilled workers employed in flour mills. In the Punjab, the seventh meeting of the Minimum Wages Committee regarding public motor transport was held at Simla on 11th and 12th July 1951. The Punjab Minimum Wages Rules, 1950, were published in the State Gazette during the month.

(b) *Factories Act.*—In Delhi, 21 factories were inspected under the Factories Act and during these inspections 123 irregularities were noticed. Three new factories were registered during the month.

In Madras State, at the beginning of the month there were 11,714 factories on the register. During the month 628 factories were registered and registration of 140 factories was cancelled, thus bringing the total number of registered factories to 12,202. In the Punjab, only one new factory was registered and 104 prosecutions were launched during the month; the number of factories inspected was 248. In Rajasthan, 20 factories were inspected during the month. The Rajasthan Government have published in the State Government Gazette the draft Model Rules under the Factories Act, 1948. In Travancore-Cochin the Chief Inspector of Factories and the Factory Inspectors under the Travancore and Cochin Factories Acts have been notified by the State Government as Chief Inspector of Factories and Factory Inspectors respectively under the Indian Factories Act, 1948. The Chief Adviser, Factories and the Deputy Chief Advisers, Factories, Ministry of Labour, Government of India have also been notified as Factory Inspectors under the Act in this State. The Labour Commissioner, the Assistant Labour Commissioners, the Labour Officers, the Director of Public Health and the District Health Officers of the Public Health Department have been appointed as additional Inspectors of Factories. During the month, 22 new factories have been registered under the Factories Act in Travancore-Cochin State.

(c) *Shops and Establishments Acts.*—In Delhi, 2,393 shops and commercial establishments were inspected during the month under the Punjab Trade Employees Act. As a result of these inspections 220 irregularities were noticed and legal action was taken in 214 cases. The Court disposed of 297 cases, resulting in imposition of fines amounting to Rs. 6,588. Under the C.P. and Berar Shops and Establishments Act and Rules, 724 establishments were registered and registration of 311 establishments was renewed. Employers of 67 establishments were prosecuted for breach of provisions of the Act and Rules and employers of 10 establishments were convicted and fined. In the Punjab, under the Trade Employees Act, 10,990 shops and commercial establishments were inspected and in 309 cases prosecution was recommended.

Accidents.—Statistics of accidents for the month of July 1951 were received only from Madras, Punjab and Rajasthan. In Madras, there were 495 accidents, of which 1 was fatal. The principal industries in which the accidents occurred were textiles, transport and transport equipment and food (except beverages). In the Punjab, 2 fatal and 84 non-fatal accidents in factories were reported during the month. In Rajasthan, the total number of accidents in the factories reported during the month was 76 (including 46 of the last month but reported during this month), all these accidents were of minor nature.

Housing.—The State Government of Bhopal sent the housing scheme of the Government of India to major industrial concerns to ascertain their views for formulation of proposals for seeking loans from the Central Government. In Madhya Pradesh, a site for a miners' township, with 250 houses, has been selected near Diglwani in the Pench Valley Coalfields; the Work of construction will be started immediately after the termination of the monsoon season.

Trade Unions.—In Ajmer, a trade union, representing hosiery workers of Beawar, was registered during the month. In Bihar, 3 trade unions were registered during the month, thereby bringing the total number of trade unions so far registered to 518. In the State of Bombay there were on 1st July 1951, 677 unions, registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act. During the month, 18 new unions were registered, thereby bringing the total number of registered trade unions at the end of the month to 695. The name of the BEST Workers' Union, Bombay was entered in the approved list of trade unions for the industry engaged in the supply of electrical energy in the local area of the City of Bombay. In Hyderabad one union of employers and 2 of the employees were registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926; the total membership of these 3 trade unions was 313. In Madhya Bhart one trade union was registered, thus bringing the total number of registered trade unions to 37. In Madras State, there were 623 trade unions on the register on 30th June 1951. During the month of July, 15 new unions were registered. Registration of 4 unions was cancelled and the cancellation of one union was revoked, thereby bringing the total number of trade unions on register on 31st July 1951 to 635. In the Punjab, 2 trade unions, one of hosiery workers and the other of sweepers, were registered and the registration of a textile union was cancelled during the month. In Saurashtra 2 trade unions, with a membership of 5,932 and 103 respectively were registered during the month. In Travancore-Cochin 10 new trade unions were registered under the Trade Unions Act.

Investigation of Complaints.—The Conciliation Officer, Ajmer, investigated 15 complaints mainly relating to irregular payment of wages and discharge of workers. In Assam the total number of complaints investigated by State Labour Officers was 103; of these, 23 related to discharge of workers, 15 to non-payment of arrears, 10 to terms of employment, and the remaining to miscellaneous causes. In Bhopal, 39 complaints mainly relating to suspension and dismissal of workers, fines and indiscipline were enquired into and settled. In Delhi, 29 complaints mainly relating to non-payment of wages and demand for bonus were received during the month; of these 20 were settled and the remaining were under investigation. The Madhya Bharat Labour Department received 54 complaints during the month. Of these, 23 related to wages, 21 to employment and 10 to miscellaneous causes. Sixteen of these complaints were successful, 5 unsuccessful and 3 were rejected. Thirty complaints were pending at the end of the month. The Labour Officers and Shops Inspectors of Madhya Pradesh investigated 49 complaints, of which 12 related to reinstatement, 9 to wages, 5 to dismissal, 5 to leave and hours of work, 4 to retrenchment, and the remaining 14 to the miscellaneous causes. In Madras, the Labour Officers investigated 719 complaints during the month. Of these 223 related to dismissals and discharges, 166 to wages, 64 to service conditions, 44 to bonus, 29 to leave, 15 to dearness allowance, 5 to food supply and 173 to miscellaneous causes. In Saurashtra, 34 complaints were investigated by the Labour Officers, who settled 15 of them. The complaints related to payment of over-time, leave with wages, reinstatement, etc. Labour Officers

of Travancore-Cochin State investigated 338 complaints during the month; of these 107 related to dismissals and discharges, 81 to non-payment of wages, 31 to non-payment of bonus, 16 to maternity benefits and the remaining 103 to miscellaneous causes.

Enquiries, Committees and Conferences.—The enquiry into the family budgets in the city of Bombay, started in June 1951, continued during the month under review. The Enquiry Committee which was appointed by the Hyderabad Government to enquire into the recent accidents in the Osmanshahi Mills, Nandad, submitted its report to the State Government. The 3rd meeting of the Hyderabad Labour Advisory Committee was held on 2nd July 1951. Important labour welfare matters, such as the proposals to set up a welfare trust fund, proposal for building residential houses for labour in industrial areas of the State etc., were discussed at this meeting. A meeting of the Madhya Pradesh Coal Fields Sub-Committee was held on 20th July 1951 at Parasias. The problems relating to regional hospital in Pench Valley, supply of radio sets to workers' clubs, women welfare centres, etc., were discussed and decisions were taken. The Report of the Court of Enquiry appointed by the Saurashtra Government for the Button Industry was received and published in the Saurashtra Government Gazette. The Court of Enquiry (Match Industry) also submitted its Report, which was under consideration of the State Government.

QUESTIONS IN PARLIAMENT ON LABOUR

The following questions asked in the Parliament of India during the recent session are reproduced below with their replies :—

Questions Nos. 95, 480 and 802

Industrial Housing

Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

- (a) Whether any States have applied to the Government of India for loans for their housing schemes;
- (b) what is the amount given on loan to these States, State-wise;
- (c) what is the number of houses to be built with this loan;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have decided to extend the Industrial Housing Scheme to Part B and some of the Part C States where it was not in operation;
- (e) if so, what is the total amount of capital required;
- (f) How many Part B States have availed of the Scheme and whether Travancore-Cochin comes under the Scheme; if so, the amount granted to the State under the Scheme; and
- (g) the total amount spent under the scheme in (i) Part A (ii) Part B and (iii) Part C States?

Reply to Questions Nos. 95, 480 and 802

(a) The Industrial Housing Scheme of the Central Government is in operation since 1950-51. For the year 1950-51, a sum of rupees

one crore was available for distribution as loan to State Governments and the Governments of Bombay, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar asked for loans. For the year 1951-52, a sum of Rs. 1.68 crores has been provided for and the following State Governments have applied for loans :—Madras, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Orissa, Bombay, Hyderabad, Mysore, Travancore-Cochin and Delhi.

(b) In 1950-51, Bombay got Rs. 75 lakhs, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh Rs. 10 lakhs each and Bihar Rs. 5 lakhs. It is proposed to distribute Rs. 1.68 crores provided for in this year's budget in the following manner :—Madras 9 lakhs; Punjab 5 lakhs; Madhya Pradesh 10 lakhs; Assam 10 lakhs; Orissa 10 lakhs; Bombay 73 lakhs; Hyderabad 20 lakhs; Mysore 20 lakhs; Travancore-Cochin 10 lakhs; and Delhi 1 lakh.

(c) The number of houses which can be built with this loan depends, among others, on the cost of building materials, land, the amount of money which State Governments or employers sponsored by them can provide. In Bombay State, 1,712 houses have been constructed, while 169 houses in Orissa, 400 houses in Madhya Pradesh and 85 houses in Bihar, are nearing completion.

(d) Yes.

(e) Under the provisional scheme—which is still not the final scheme—two-thirds of the capital cost of the houses will be provided by the Centre as interest-free loans and one-third by the State Governments concerned or employers sponsored by them as loans on 3 per cent. interest. The Government of India have earmarked a sum of Rs. 1.68 crores to be advanced in the current financial year for the implementation of the Scheme.

(f) All Part B States were asked to intimate their requirements and only the Governments of Hyderabad, Mysore and Travancore-Cochin applied for loans. Travancore-Cochin comes under the Scheme and the Government of Travancore-Cochin has asked for a loan of Rs. 10 lakhs in the current financial year, which, it is proposed to allot.

(g) During 1950-51, Rs. 1,20,66,431 were spent in Part A States. No amount could be spent in Parts B and C States as the Scheme was not applicable to them in 1950-51.

Starred Question No. 157

Ratification of I.L.O.' Conventions

Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Government of India have since decided to ratify the I.L.O. Convention No. 87 on "Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise" and Convention No. 98 on "the Right to Organise and to Bargain Collectively" ;

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, the reason for the delay or inability of Government to ratify the two Conventions ?

Reply to Starred Question No. 157

(a) No Sir.

(b) The Government of India have sought clarification from the I.L.O. regarding the implications of a certain provision of convention

No. 87 and no decision could be taken pending the receipt of the I.L.O.'s reply. The question of ratification of convention No. 98 is linked with that of convention No. 87.

Starred Question No. 175-B

All-India Trades Certification Board

Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

- (a) Whether there is any proposal before Government to set an All-India Trades Certification Board ?
- (b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what is the work of the Board ? and
- (c) How will the Board be constituted ?

Reply to Starred Question No. 175-B

(a) Yes.

(b) It is intended that the Board should conduct examinations and award certificates to craftsmen in engineering and building trades on a national basis.

(c) The matter is at present in an exploratory stage, and a Committee has been appointed to investigate and make recommendations to Government.

Starred Question No. 269

Labour and Housing in Coal Mines Industry

Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

- (a) What is the total number of labourers employed in coal mines ;
- (b) what is the housing accommodation so far provided for colliery labour ;
- (c) whether there is any subsidy scheme for the provision of housing accommodation ; and
- (d) how are the employers availing of this scheme ?

Reply to Starred Question No. 269

(a) 3,35,897.

(b) In addition to the accommodation provided by colliery managements, 1,798 houses have so far been constructed by the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund and 355 houses are under construction.

(c) Yes.

(d) Applications for construction of 193 houses have been received so far, under the subsidy scheme, from ten collieries.

Starred Question No. 803

International Labour Organization

(a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state how many countries are the regular members of I.L.O.

(b) How is this organisation financed and what is the basis of the contribution by member countries ?

(c) What is the agenda or programme of the Asian Man-power Conference to be held in December, 1951 ?

Reply to Starred Question No. 803

(a) The number of regular members of the I.L.O. is 64.

(b) The Organisation is financed by contributions from the member countries. The rates of contribution are based on a rough assessment of the financial and economic conditions of the individual countries.

(c) The agenda of the Conference is as follows:—

(1) Exchange of views on the present state of manpower problems in Asian Countries :

(a) The manpower position in relation to the present economic situation ;

(b) The manpower position in relation to long-term economic development.

(2) Methods of co-operation between the I.L.O. and Asian countries with a view to ensuring the best use of the Field Office and other resources :—

(a) Continued Programme :

(i) Organisation of effective liaison between the Field Office and national technical correspondents ;

(ii) Publication of a manpower technical bulletin ;

(iii) Organisation of a lending library (books, technical documents, training syllabuses etc., and films) ;

(b) Technical Assistance Programme :

(i) Types of technical assistance which the I.L.O. can provide in different fields relating to manpower problems ;

(ii) Review of technical assistance projects in actual operation or under consideration ;

(iii) Suggested specific projects.

(3) Consideration of Resolution concerning Field Offices in Asia adopted by the Asian Regional Conference (Nuwara Eliya, Ceylon, January 1950) ;

(4) Consideration of the problem of migration of Asian Labour as part of the Asian manpower problem.

FOREIGN

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN U.K., 1950*

Detailed statistics regarding stoppages of work arising from industrial disputes in the U.K. during 1950 have been made available on pages 187-188 of the May 1951 issue of the U.K. *Ministry of Labour Gazette*. A comparison of these figures with the statistics relating to industrial disputes in India during 1950† reveals some interesting facts.

The number of stoppages of work arising from industrial disputes in the U.K. in 1950, was 1,344. The aggregate number of workers involved in 1950 in the stoppages was about 303,000, while the man-days lost came to about 1,389,000. In India during 1950, there were 814 industrial disputes, resulting in work stoppages; these involved 719,883 workers and resulted in a time loss of 12,806,704 man-days. Thus the Indian disputes though fewer in number resulted in a far greater time loss than the British disputes. The majority of stoppages of work in the U.K. involved relatively small number of workers and were of short duration as shown in the following statement which gives a classification of the stoppages beginning in 1950 according to duration.

	Stoppages beginning in 1950		
	Number of stoppages	Number of workers involved directly and indirectly	Aggregate number of working days lost
Not more than one day	541	41,000	37,000
Over 1 and not more than 2 days	324	55,000	76,000
Over 2 and not more than 3 days	160	27,000	60,000
Over 3 and not more than 4 days	81	18,000	52,000
Over 4 and not more than 5 days	60	36,000	109,000
Over 5 and not more than 6 days	18	21,000	73,000
Over 6 and not more than 12 days	84	48,000	310,000
Over 12 and not more than 18 days	34	35,000	252,000
Over 18 and not more than 24 days	10	13,000	203,000
Over 24 and not more than 36 days	14	5,000	102,000
Over 36 days	13	3,000	103,000
Total	1,339	302,000	1,382,000

*For statistics of industrial disputes during 1949, see *Indian Labour Gazette*, July 1950, pp. 40-42

†See *Indian Labour Gazette*, April 1951, pp. 740-44.

These figures show that over 40 per cent. of the disputes lasted for a day or less and another 47 per cent. lasted for more than a day but not more than 5 days. In India, these percentages were 43 and 29 respectively. Thus the number of disputes lasting for more than 5 days was only 13 per cent. of the total in the U.K., while the corresponding percentage in India was 28.

An analysis of the principal causes of industrial disputes in the U.K., showing the numbers and proportions of stoppages and of workers directly involved therein is given in the following table:

Principal cause	Stoppages beginning in 1950		Workers directly involved in stoppages beginning in 1950	
	Number	Per cent of total	Number	Per cent of total
For wage increases	78	5.8	79,700	29.6
Other wage disputes	509	38.0	52,400	19.5
All wage disputes	587	43.8	132,100	49.1
Hours of labour	37	2.8	4,100	1.5
Employment of particular classes or persons .	202	15.1	42,300	15.7
Other working arrangements, rules and discipline	436	32.6	51,500	19.2
Trade unionism	35	2.6	9,600	3.5
Sympathetic action	27	2.0	7,900	3.0
Other causes	15	1.1	21,500	8.0
Total	1,339	100.0	268,900	100.0

Wage questions as a whole accounted for more than 2/5ths of the total number of stoppages and for nearly one-half of the total number of workers directly involved. Matters in dispute regarding the employment of particular classes or persons accounted for more than one-seventh of the stoppages and of the workers involved, while disputes as to working arrangements (other than wages and hours of labour) were responsible for nearly one-third of the stoppages and nearly one-fifth of the workers involved. Indian statistics also show that in 1950 nearly two-fifths of the disputes related to wages, allowances and bonus.

An analysis by industry of the number of stoppages, workers involved and working days lost reveals that the main industries affected during 1950 in the U.K. were coal mining; printing and publishing; motor vehicles; aircraft; cycles; and water transport and docks. In India during the same period the industries mainly affected were cotton and jute textiles and coal mining; out of a total of 12,806,704 man-days lost in India, cotton textiles alone accounted

or 10,332,030 man-days. This loss was mainly due to the general strike in the cotton textile industry in Bombay.

COAL MINING IN THE U.K. DURING 1950

The June 1951 issue of the *Ministry of Labour Gazette* contains summary of the *Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 1950*, submitted by the National Coal Board to the Minister of Fuel and Power under the Coal Industry Nationalisation Act, 1946. The following are the important facts contained in this summary.

The aims of the National Coal Board in 1950 were to recruit and keep more miners, to make better use of man-power, and to make more collieries efficient, so that production should keep pace with immediate demand and the industry be better prepared to meet future needs.

The total output of saleable coal in 1950 was over 216 million tons, i.e. more than a million tons than in 1949. Higher output per man-shift at the coal face and more shifts worked per man were responsible for an increase of 5.6 million tons and 2.1 million tons respectively. On the other hand, decline in man-power was responsible for a decrease of 6.3 million tons in deep-mined coal. Output per man-shift in 1950 was 1.19 tons, compared with 1.16 tons in 1949, and the number of shifts worked per man was 245.4, compared with 242.7 in 1949. The output per man-shift, nearly 24 wt., was the highest yet recorded.

The rise in output, however, proved insufficient to meet a rapid increase in consumption, so that exports had to be cut and emergency measures taken to carry the country through the winter of 1950-51. During 1950, home consumption of coal increased by 6 million tons to 201.7 million tons—more than ever before. Total exports were 7.5 million tons, the comparable figure for 1949 being 19 million tons.

The total costs of production in 1950 were 4.6d a ton higher than in 1949. The main increases in costs were 2.5d a ton for materials, stores and repairs and 1.8d a ton for depreciation charges. Although miners' average earnings increased from 34s 4d a shift in 1949 to 35s. 6d. in 1950, wages costs rose by only 0.4d. a ton, because of the improvement in productivity. The financial results of the collieries showed a surplus of £8.3 million in 1950, compared with £9.5 million in 1949.

During the year, 75,800 men left the industry and 55,300 joined it. The net loss of 20,500 men following upon a loss of 16,400 in 1949, caused an acute man-power shortage in many coalfields. To offset this loss, a growing number of ex-miners and juveniles were encouraged to rejoin the industry. The number of boys under 18 recruited was 15,000, the largest number since separate records of juvenile recruitment were started in 1942.

In many places, shortage of houses was responsible for loss in production. It was, therefore, agreed to increase the allocations of houses to Local Authorities in mining areas, and special measures were decided upon to build a further 3,600 houses in places where it was unlikely that Local Authorities would meet the most urgent needs.

About 9,000 youths and 12,000 adults completed preliminary training and nearly 14,000 men received coal face training during the year. About 7,000 young miners were released from work during the academic year 1950-51 to attend courses on one day every week in mining, mechanical and electrical engineering, and mine surveying. Time off to attend courses in chemistry, building, fuel efficiency, accountancy, etc., was given to a further 2,700 young men.

Accidents in coal mines during 1950 resulted in 493 deaths and 2,019 serious injuries. The chief cause was falling of roof, which accounted for one-third of accidents.

Work in progress on colliery medical centres continued and during the year 19 centres were completed. Pit-head baths for some 480,000 out of the 700,000 men in the industry had been provided.

EARNINGS OF U.K. COAL MINERS, 1950

In a recent statistical statement, published by the National Coal Board, the following statistics regarding the earnings of British miners for the year 1950 have been given :

—	Underground		Surface		All workers	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Average earnings (All ages)						
(i) Per man-shift worked—						
Cash earnings	37	1.4	24	3.7	34	0.1
Value of allowances in kind	1	6.6	1	3.7	1	5.9
Total	38	8.0	25	7.4	35	6.0
(ii) Per wage-earner per week—						
Cash earnings	186	7	133	10	174	8
Value of allowances in kind	7	10	7	2	7	8
Total	194	5	141	0	182	4

The statistics relate to the mines worked by the Board and exclude those relating to mines licensed in accordance with Section 36 of the Coal Industry Nationalisation Act, which in the year 1950 produced about 0.9 per cent. of the total quantity of saleable coal. The estimated average earnings, including the value of allowances in kind, for all adult male workers in Great Britain during the year amounted to 36s. 11d. per man-shift and 190s. 0d. per week. (Abstracted from the *Ministry of Labour Gazette*, July, 1951, p. 271).

CURRENT LABOUR LITERATURE

ARTICLES OF LABOUR INTEREST IN PERIODICALS

Important articles of labour interest, published in the periodicals received in the Labour Bureau, are mentioned below :—

International Labour Review (International Labour Office, Geneva) : May 1951.—(i) Industrialisation and Social Problems in Central Africa, by P. de Briey ; (ii) Employers' Organisations in Europe and North America, by Guy J. Puysegur ; and (iii) Conditions of Employment in Postal, Telegraph and Telephone Services.

United Nations Bulletin (United Nations, New York) : 1st July, 1951.—(i) The Challenge of World Economic Needs ; and (ii) The Greatest Housing Problem of the World.

Labour and Nation (Inter-Union Institute, Inc., New York) : Spring 1951.—(i) Interpretation of U.S. Labor Movement by J. B. S. Hardman (Report by the Editor) ; (ii) Migratory Labor by Frieda Wunderlich ; (iii) Labor and Population Control by Mark Starr ; (iv) Co-operation Substituted for Wage Incentives by Solomon Barkin ; and (v) The Squeeze on the Wage-Earner by Stanley H. Ruttenberg.

Ministry of Labour Gazette (U.K. Ministry of Labour, London), July, 1951.—(i) Thirty-Fourth Session of International Labour Conference ; (ii) Coal Mining : Reconstitution of National Coal Board ; and Earnings in the Coal Mining Industry ; and (iii) Duration of Unemployment, Age and Turnover among the Unemployed.

Monthly Labor Review (U.S. Department of Labor, Washington) : (a) May, 1951.—(i) Wage Escalators and the Adjusted consumers' Price Index ; (ii) Work Stoppages during 1950 ; (iii) Hours of work in Key Industries, December, 1950 ; and (iv) Labour Management Relations in Scandinavia.

(b) June, 1951.—(i) Uninsured Costs of Industrial Accidents ; (ii) Trends in Wages in 1950 ; and (iii) Activities of French Labor Unions in 1949-51.

Mysore Labour Gazette (Department of Labour, Mysore) June, 1951.—(i) Model Factory in the United Kingdom ; (ii) Paid Holidays for Workers ; and (iii) Conditions of Work—New System of Occupational Grading in Yugoslavia.

The Worker (Hindusthan Mazdoor Sevak Sangh, Bombay) ; 15th August, 1951.—(i) Problems of Indian Workers by Sjt. Harihar Nath Shastri ; (ii) Labour Conditions in Abadan ; and (iii) Draft Bill on Labour Welfare Fund.

Industrial Law Journal (Lucknow) : August, 1951.—History of Labor Legislation in America.

Labour Gazette (Deputy Commissioner of Labour (Information) Bombay) : August 1951.—(i) Retail Prices in the State of Bombay during 1949-50 ; and (ii) Industrial Relations in Bombay State, 1950.

The Indian Journal of Social Work (Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Bombay) : June 1951.—(i) Women and Child Welfare Services ; (ii) Health Insurance and Medical Services ; (iii) Social Work by College Students ; and (iv) Social Services in India.

Employment News (Directorate-General of Resettlement and Employment, New Delhi) : August, 1951.—(i) Finding of Agricultural Labour Enquiry in Bihar ; and (ii) Code of Ethics and Procedural Standards for Labour Management Arbitration.

Engineering News of India (Engineering Association of India, Calcutta) : July, 1951.—Planning Commission on Role of Labour.

Capital (Calcutta) : August, 1951 :

(a) 2nd August : (i) Textile Workers' Earnings ; and (ii) New Welfare Schemes for Labour in Bombay.

(b) 9th August : Food supplies to Tea Gardens.

(c) 16th August : (i) Industrial Workers' Earnings in 1949 ; and (ii) Railway Strike Averted.

(d) 30th August : Annual Conference of South Indian Planters.

Commerce (Bombay) August, 1951 :

(a) 4th August : (i) Labour Conference to discuss Wage-Price Freeze Move ; and (ii) Plantation Labour in Travancore.

(b) 15th August : (i) The Anti-strike Bill ; (ii) Report on Archikarahalli ; and (iii) Retrenchment in Industry—Development Committee approves scheme.

(c) 25th August : (i) Five per cent. Increase in Textile Workers' Wages ; and (ii) Impressive Increase in Earnings of Titaghur Paper Mills.

Eastern Economist (New Delhi) August 10, 1951 (Independence Number).—(i) Industrial Policy ; and (ii) Labour Policy.

ADDITIONS TO THE LABOUR BUREAU LIBRARY

(August, 1951)

The following books were added to the Library of the Labour Bureau, during the month of August, 1951.

OFFICIAL

INDIA

1. *Report on an Enquiry into the Conditions of Agricultural Workers in the Village Archikarahalli, Mysore State*, Government of India, Ministry of Labour, pp. 79, Rs. 1/10/- or 2s. 6d.

2. *Bihar Statistical Hand-Book, 1950*, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Bihar, Superintendent, Government Printing, Gulzarbagh, Patna, 1951, pp. iii+138, Rs. 1/3/-.

3. *Rural Economic Enquiries in the Hyderabad State, 1949-51*, by S. Kesava Iyengar, Economic Adviser and Secretary, Central Board of Economic Enquiries, Hyderabad Government, with foreword by C. V. S. Rao, Minister for Finance and Commerce and Industry, Hyderabad, Government Press, Hyderabad, Deccan, 1951, pp. 658, Rs. 15.

4. *The First Five Year Plan—A Draft Outline*—Government of India, Planning Commission, July 1951, Manager of Publications, Delhi, 1951, pp. vii + 295, Rs. 2/12/- or 4s. 6d.

5. *Report on Currency and Finance for the Year 1950-51*, Director, Monetary Research, Department of Research and Statistics, Reserve Bank of India, Bombay, 1951, pp. 255, Price Inland Rs. 5 Foreign \$1.25 or 8s. 6d.

U.S.A.

1. *Selected Types of Railroad Freight Cars, 1939 to 1948, Man-Hours Expended per Car, November 1950*, Special Series No. 3, pp. 23.

2. *Selected Types of Machine Tools, 1948 to 1949—Trends in Man-Hours Expended per Unit, January 1951*, Special Series No. 4, pp. 19.

(These two publications have been published by the United States, Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and are available with the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government, Printing Office, Washington, 25 D.C.).

NORWAY

1. *Statistisk Sentralbyrå, Gjennom 75 Ar, Tre 25—Arsmeldinger, Norges Offisielle Statistikk, XI, 65, Oslo, 1951*, pp. 53, Kr. 2,00.

UNOFFICIAL

INDIA

1. *Indian National Trade Union Congress, Third Annual Session, Jamshedpur, October, 1950*, Central Office, 17, Queensway, New Delhi, pp. 44.

2. *Report of the Committee for the Year ended 31st December, 1950*, Indian Jute Mills Association, Royal Exchange, Calcutta, 1951, pp. v + XVII + 133.

3. *Detailed Report of the General Committee of the Indian Tea Association for the Year 1950, Calcutta, 1951*, pp. v + xxxvi + 219.

I.L.O.

1. *Minutes of the 101st Session of the Governing Body, Geneva—5-8 March 1947*, pp. 176.

2. *Minutes of the 103rd Session of the Governing Body, Geneva—12-15 December 1947*, pp. 255.

3. *Co-operation in Industry, Workers, Employers Public Authorities—Geneva, 1951*, pp. iv + 238, \$1.50 ; 9s.

4. *Summary of Reports on Ratified Conventions* (Article 22 of the Constitution) Third item on the Agenda, Report III (Part I), Thirty-fourth Session, Geneva, 1951, pp. 279.

5. *Record of Proceedings, Thirty-third Session, Geneva, 1950*, pp. XLVI + 625.

(Publications 1 to 5, have been published by the International Labour Organisation, Geneva).

STATISTICS

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Employment

EMPLOYMENT IN FACTORIES*

State	Average daily number of workers employed†							
	1939	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950‡	
							First half	Second half
Assam .	52,003||	58,070||	53,161	56,119	59,563	61,132	47,811	63,039
Bihar .	95,988	168,408	138,990	136,834	148,208	155,334	150,580	§
Bombay .	466,040	735,774	680,896	702,465	737,460	789,463	771,338	701,203
Madhya Pradesh	64,494	110,263	101,355	97,219	101,646	96,273	104,294	88,720
Madras .	197,266	279,176	262,292	276,586	288,722	323,950	348,051	363,828
Orissa .	5,371	7,427	7,443	10,592	12,329	13,359	13,678	12,302
Punjab .	22,468¶	44,759¶	41,626¶	37,486	36,625	39,342**	42,612	§
Uttar Pradesh.	159,738	276,468	257,140	240,396	242,083	233,837	238,415	234,477
West Bengal	532,830¶	702,961¶	663,087¶	667,626	678,701	665,008	§	§
Ajmer .	13,330	15,877	15,789	15,864	15,877	15,380	16,337	18,165
Coorg .	14	27	53	117	74	82	266	485
Delhi .	17,400	36,870	33,349	31,320	36,894	38,806	41,055	40,780
Andaman & Nicobar Is.	§	§	§	2,065	2,019	2,000	1,686	1,304
Total	1,626,942	2,436,083	2,255,181	2,274,689	2,360,201	2,433,966	—	—

* Covers factories subject to the Factories Act.

† Obtained by totalling the figures of average daily employment for all factories.

‡ Provisional.

§ Returns not received.

|| Figures relate to the pre-partition Province of Assam.

¶ Estimated.

** Revised.

Source.—Annual Reports on the Working of the Factories Act and half-yearly returns furnished by the State Governments.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE COTTON MILL INDUSTRY

Month	Total no. of work- ers on rolls	Average daily number of workers em- ployed.			
		1st shift	2nd shift	3rd shift	Total
1950					
June	767,752	412,802	242,407	39,299	694,508
July	770,238	417,604	242,261	41,552	701,417
August	763,062	410,709	242,582	40,782	694,073
September	715,278	326,590	178,393	34,315	539,298
October	760,438	395,365	230,720	40,881	666,966
November	759,716	413,985	243,539	42,334	699,858
December	770,606	414,571	244,663	45,130	704,364
1951					
January	770,857	413,265	245,561	46,295	705,121
February	767,194	405,791	245,400	45,927	697,118
March	770,714	408,454	243,408	45,573	697,435
April	777,343	413,238	245,153	43,832	702,223
May	769,721	415,215	246,229	45,743	707,187
June	785,075	417,089	249,582	47,565	714,236

Employment in the Cotton Mill Industry during June, 1951, by States

State	Total no. of work-ers on rolls	Average daily number of workers employed			
		1st shift	2nd shift	3rd shift	Total
Bombay	429,148	235,343	143,893	17,646	396,882
Bihar	519	393	31	—	424
Madhya Pradesh	31,946	18,076	8,683	165	26,924
Madras	96,972	50,815	27,988	5,673	84,476
Orissa	3,019	961	725	543	2,229
Punjab	3,816	1,599	797	675	3,071
Uttar Pradesh	57,385	24,587	18,158	8,694	51,439
West Bengal	31,591	18,655	7,435	4,009	30,099
Hyderabad	14,954	7,118	4,462	2,437	14,017
Madhya Bharat	44,500	22,766	15,952	1,993	40,711
Mysore	18,613	11,359	5,381	477	17,217
P. E. P. S. U.	697	622	75	—	697
Rajasthan	6,223	3,567	2,222	223	6,012
Saurashtra	11,879	6,696	4,572	20	11,288
Travancore-Cochin	6,191	2,796	1,470	895	5,161
Ajmer	6,798	4,069	1,939	416	6,424
Bhopal	2,593	911	656	626	2,193
Delhi	18,036	6,591	5,143	3,073	14,807
Kutch	165	165	—	—	165
Total	785,075	417,089	249,582	47,565	714,236

Source.—Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.

NUMBER OF COTTON MILLS WORKING ONE OR MORE SHIFTS

Month	Total no. of mills	No. of mills which remained closed dur- ing the month	No. of mills which worked		
			1 shift	2 shifts	3 shifts
1950					
June . . .	362	29	33	191	109
July . . .	362	26	32	178	126
August* . . .	362	28	27	181	126
September† . . .	364	26	23	148	104
October . . .	365	27	25	185	129
November . . .	364	24	26	179	135
December . . .	365	24	30	176	135
1951					
January . . .	365	25	27	172	141
February . . .	366	29	27	180	130
March . . .	368	27	26	191	124
April . . .	372	21	32	196	123
May . . .	374	19	32	194	129
June . . .	374	17	28	191	135

Number of Cotton Mills Working One or More Shifts during June, 1951, by States

State	Total no. of mills	No. of mills which remained closed during the month	No. of mills which worked		
			1 shift	2 shifts	3 shifts
Bombay . . .	179	4	11	96	68
Bihar . . .	2	1	—	1	—
Madhya Pradesh . . .	11	—	3	7	1
Madras . . .	76	2	8	38	26
Orissa . . .	1	—	—	—	1
Punjab . . .	3	—	—	1	2
Uttar Pradesh . . .	21	3	2	7	9
West Bengal . . .	18	2	1	5	10
Hyderabad . . .	6	—	—	1	5
Madhya Bharat . . .	16	1	2	11	2
Mysore . . .	7	—	—	5	1
P. E. P. S. U. . . .	1	—	—	1	—
Rajasthan . . .	6	2	—	3	1
Saurashtra . . .	10	1	—	9	—
Travancore-Cochin . . .	8	1	—	3	4
Ajmer . . .	4	—	—	3	1
Bhopal . . .	1	—	—	—	1
Delhi . . .	3	—	—	—	—
Kutch . . .	1	—	1	—	—
Total . . .	374	17	28	191	135

* Relates to the first thirteen days only in the case of Bombay City.

† Figures for 63 mills in Bombay City are not included on account of the general strike.

Source.—Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.

Wages and Earnings
WAGES PAID TO FACTORY WORKERS*
(In thousands of rupees)

State	1939	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949†
Assam	5,649	10,585	10,684	13,660	17,022	21,089
Bihar	29,375	58,142	59,259	82,320	112,171	137,213
Bombay	144,367	524,903	486,655	591,839	713,024	844,056
Madhya Pradesh	§	33,353	26,279	42,714	47,010	61,061
Madras	24,622	78,147	88,823	123,439	136,153	180,039
Orissa	515	2,049	1,929	3,027	4,449	4,554
Punjab	3,829†	18,640†	17,857†	14,454	20,282	26,703
Uttar Pradesh	25,485	124,911	119,904	133,432	174,352	198,685
West Bengal	113,424†	282,735†	267,307†	337,875	432,025	489,577
Ajmer	1,049	2,878	3,167	3,186	3,971	3,600
Coorg	§	6	6	15	8	11
Delhi	5,145	24,412	25,971	26,078	36,426	41,154

* Covers all employees drawing below Rs. 200 p.m. in factories other than Railway Workshops as the latter are included in similar statistics for Railways.

† Provisional.

‡ Estimated.

§ Not available.

AVERAGE ANNUAL EARNINGS OF FACTORY WORKERS*
(Perennial Industries only)

State	1939	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949†
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Assam‡	263.7	660.5	687.5	755.5	795.8	951.1
Bihar	416.5	538.7	544.0	819.8	1087.1	1125.6
Bombay	370.4	814.7	812.3	977.9	1141.9	1209.5
Madhya Pradesh	§	530.6	479.7	572.3	609.2	842.9
Madras	175.9	357.6	422.2	560.3	611.8	726.6
Orissa	161.8	417.2	440.1	493.6	612.6	527.0
Punjab‡	296.0	578.8	602.0‡	628.2	675.9	873.9
Uttar Pradesh	235.6	551.7	593.6	672.8	887.1	993.0
West Bengal‡	248.7	465.5	496.3	567.7	723.9	839.0
Ajmer	163.7	419.8	447.8	445.3	527.2	552.0
Delhi	309.4	699.0	837.2	877.7	1047.3	1056.1

* Excludes, besides Railway workshops, the groups Food, Drink and Tobacco and Gins and Presses which are mostly seasonal as information on annual earnings in seasonal factories is not comparable with that for the perennial factories. Covers all employees drawing below Rs. 200 p.m.

† Provisional.

‡ The averages for the years 1939, 1945 and 1946 relate to the pre-partition provinces of Assam, Punjab and Bengal.

§ Not available.

‡ Estimated.

Source.—Annual Reports on the Working of the Payment of Wages Act.

MINIMUM WAGES IN THE COTTON MILL INDUSTRY

Month 1	Bombay 2	Ahmedabad 3	Sholapur 4	Bardol 5
<i>MINIMUM BASIC WAGES</i>	Rs. A. P. 30 0 0	Rs. A. P. 28 0 0	Rs. A. P. 26 0 0	Rs. A. P. 26 0 0
<i>DEARNESS ALLOWANCE—</i> 1950				
August	57 3 0	73 13 6	51 5 2	66 7 4
September	55 13 0	73 13 6	52 4 4	66 7 4
October	56 1 0	76 2 3	51 11 8	68 8 5
November	55 1 0	76 2 3	49 13 4	68 8 5
December 1951	53 4 0	68 1 0	49 6 10	61 4 1
January	52 12 0	64 9 9	52 15 2	58 2 5
February	50 9 0	62 4 9	52 8 8	56 1 1
March	55 9 0	63 13 6	54 2 8	57 7 4
April	58 6 0	69 3 6	54 13 6	62 4 5
May	59 3 0	75 0 0	54 0 6	67 8 0
June	59 3 0	75 12 3	54 12 0	68 3 0
July	59 11 0	78 13 6	57 1 9	70 15 4
August	60 15 0	76 2 3	56 14 0	68 8 5

Month	Indore 6	Nagpur 7	Madras 8	Kanpur 9
<i>MINIMUM BASIC WAGES</i>	Rs. A. P. 26 0 0	Rs. A. P. 26 0 0	Rs. A. P. 26 0 0	Rs. A. P. 30 0 0
<i>DEARNESS ALLOWANCE—</i> 1950				
August	48 6 0	40 3 6	42 6 0	54 8 6
September	48 6 0	40 7 10	42 9 0	55 5 0
October	49 2 0	41 0 6	42 12 0	55 7 6
November	49 2 0	41 7 0	43 2 0	55 12 6
December 1951	49 2 0	41 7 0	42 6 0	55 5 6
January	45 15 0	41 4 10	42 6 0	55 14 6
February	45 15 0	41 4 10	42 6 0	54 11 6
March	45 15 0	41 2 8	42 9 0	54 12 6
April	48 9 0	41 11 4	42 15 0	54 11 2
May	48 9 0	42 8 4	43 11 0	55 2 6
June	48 9 0	43 3 2	44 1 0	55 12 6
July	52 2 0	43 7 6	44 7 0	56 14 6
August	52 2 0	43 9 8	44 7 0	—

NOTE.—In the cotton mill industry in W. Bengal the basic minimum wage is Rs. 20 2 5 p.m.
Dearness allowance is paid at a flat rate of Rs. 30 p.m.

Industrial Disputes

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN INDIA SINCE 1939

Year/Month	No. of disputes*		No. of workers involved in disputes†		Total No. of man-days lost during the period
	Starting during the period	Total in progress during a part or whole of the period	Starting during the period	Total in progress during a part or whole of the period	
1939	—	406	—	409,189	4,992,795
1940	—	322	—	452,538	7,577,281
1941	—	359	—	291,054	3,330,503
1942	—	694	—	772,653	5,779,965
1943	—	716	—	525,088	2,342,287
1944	—	658	—	550,015	3,447,306
1945	—	820	—	747,530	4,054,499
1946	—	1,629	—	1,961,948	12,717,762
1947	—	1,811	—	1,840,784	16,562,666
1948	—	1,259	—	1,059,120	7,837,173
1949	—	920	—	685,457	6,600,595
1950	—	814	—	719,883	12,806,704
July	40	54	14,794	21,188	134,911
August	60	75	236,046	240,518	2,948,978
September	54	71	39,333	249,445	4,954,161
October	64	78	64,691	288,349	2,260,894
November	77	84	51,302	56,736	313,837
December	58	68	36,393	41,061	163,718
1951					
January	102	120	81,039	91,045	324,922
February	45	61	40,995	44,025	203,660
March	66	79	37,898	47,723	317,869
April	103	119	88,754	104,687	371,359
May‡	95	108	40,906	44,455	209,652
June‡	118	146	82,873	90,241	435,703
July§	93	128	42,088	- 69,152||	619,368¶

* Disputes resulting in work-stoppages involving 10 or more workers.

† Includes workers indirectly involved also.

‡ Revised, yet provisional.

§ Provisional.

|| Not known in 13 cases.

¶ Not known in 16 cases.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN INDIA DURING JULY, 1951

TABLE I

Classification of Industrial Disputes, by States

State	No. of disputes	No. of workers involved	No. of man-days lost during the month
Assam	1	375	*
Bihar	14	2,765†	21,615†
Bombay	43	26,218	151,497
Madhya Pradesh	4	18,965	179,065
Madras	19	7,713	94,501*
Orissa . . . . .	..	..	..
Punjab . . . . .	..	..	..
Uttar Pradesh	11	1,214§	5,976§
West Bengal	36	11,902*	166,714*
Ajmer . . . . .	..	..	..
Delhi . . . . .	..	..	..
Total	128	69,152||	619,368¶

* Not known in 1 case.

† Not known in 8 cases

‡ Not known in 7 cases.

§ Not known in 5 cases.

|| Not known in 13 cases.

¶ Not known in 16 cases.

TABLE II

Classification of Industrial Disputes, by Industries

Industry	No. of disputes	No. of workers involved	No. of man-days lost during the month
Textiles—			
Cotton	22	31,366*	136,379*
Jute	2	92	234
Others	4	623	2,550
Engineering	8	3,367	56,577
Minerals and Metals—			
Iron and Steel	5	1,512	6,700
Others	6	1,247*	15,022*
Food, Drink and Tobacco	14	7,837†	90,743‡
Chemicals and Dyes	5	2,600	27,850
Wood, Stone and Glass	7	2,760	36,782
Paper and Printing	2	16*	49*
Skins and Hides	1	340	340
Gins and Presses . . . . .	..	..	..
Mines—			
Coal	11	9,911	192,948*
Others . . . . .	..	..	..
Transport—			
Railways	3	1,030*	19,190*
Others . . . . .	..	..	..
Docks and Ports	4	1,266*	1,516*
Plantations	4	1,620	3,499*
Municipalities	11	782†	3,390†
Miscellaneous	10	2,878*	25,590§
Total	128	69,152*	619,368¶

* Not known in 1 case.

† Not known in 4 cases.

‡ Not known in 3 cases.

§ Not known in 2 cases.

|| Not known in 13 cases.

¶ Not known in 16 cases.

TABLE III

Classification of Industrial Disputes by Causes and Results

Cause	Number of disputes							Number of workers involved	Number of man-days lost
	Successful	Partially successful	Unsuccessful	Indefinite	In progress	Not known	Total		
Wages and allowances.	4	4	9	5	7	5	34	8,354	47,685
Bonus . . .	2	1	3	4	5	—	15	16,109	81,668
Personnel . . .	—	3	16	1	6	2	28	16,546	98,678
Retrenchment . .	1	—	1	—	2	—	4	518	7,593
Leave and hours of work.	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	1,040	1,040
Others . . .	4	5	12	—	7	7	35	26,210	382,329
Not known . . .	—	—	2	—	—	8	10	375	375
Total . . .	11	13	45	10	27	22	128	—	—
No. of workers involved.	1,717	6,495	37,501	2,633	12,460	8,346	..	69,152	—
No. of man-days lost.	9,146	16,442	129,880	24,462	265,054	174,384	..	—	619,368

TABLE IV

Classification of Industrial Disputes, by Duration

Duration	No. of disputes
A day or less	38
More than a day up to 5 days	27
More than 5 days up to 10 days	12
More than 10 days up to 20 days	5
More than 20 days up to 30 days	8
More than 30 days	5

N. B.—There were 27 disputes in progress at the end of the month and particulars are not known in 6 cases.

TABLE V

Classification of Industrial Disputes, by Number of Workers Involved

Number of workers involved	No. of disputes
10 or more but less than 100	46
100 or more but less than 500	43
500 or more but less than 1,000	14
1,000 or more but less than 10,000	15
10,000 or more	—

N.B.—Particulars are not known in 13 cases.

TABLE VI

Classification of Industrial Disputes, by Number of Man-days lost

Man-days lost during the month	No. of disputes
Less than 100	1
100 or more but less than 1,000	50
1,000 or more but less than 10,000	31
10,000 or more but less than 50,000	9
50,000 or more	3

N. B.—Particulars are not known in 16 cases.

Cost of Living

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING AND FOOD INDEX NUMBERS IN INDIA
 (Base shifted to August, 1939=100)

State	BOMBAY				UTTAR PRADESH	MADHYA PRADESH	MADRAS
Town	Bombay	Ahmed- abad	Sholapur	Jalgaon	Kanpur	Nagpur	Madras
Original base (=100)	July, 1933 to June, 1934	August, 1926 to July, 1927	February, 1927 to January, 1928	August, 1939	August, 1939	August, 1939	July, 1935 to June, 1936

Cost of Living

1939 (Aug.—Dec.)	103	107	105	—	105	104	106
1940	107	108	104	109	111	110	109
1941	118	119	115	123	123	119	114
1942	150	156	155	180	181	165	136
1943	219	282	252	284	306	299	180
1944	226	290	276	295	314	267	207
1945	224	272	275	291	308	259	228
1946	246	286	290	326	328	285	240
1947	265	300	340	369	378	320	277
1948	288	333	400	440	471	372	315
1949	292	339	410	425	478	377	330
1950	298	351	398	424	434	372	332
July	304	363	395	436	439	375	333
August	307	371	396	446	444	377	334
September	308	371	401	417	445	378	335
October	304	342	399	421	447	378	337
November	297	330	388	428	444	376	333
December	295	322	385	415	435	378	333
1951 January	303	327	405	426	440	376	333
February	306	347	403	439	441	388	334
March	316	367	412	438	439	390	336
April	319	370	416	455	440	391	340
May	319	381	430	471	443	394	342
June	321	371	429	487	447	394	344
July	317	370	436	494	454	394	344

Food

1939 (Aug.—Dec.)	105	109	109	—	106	103	109
1940	112	111	106	111	112	106	114
1941	125	120	118	123	122	117	117
1942	161	169	157	186	181	163	151
1943	225	325	288	302	319	299	218
1944	235	326	297	303	331	263	257
1945	242	303	291	299	326	251	274
1946	283	337	319	350	364	282	293
1947	307	360	387	417	424	320	324
1948	311	374	421	490	514	379	360
1949	327	392	420	462	538	384	382
1950	340	420	434	459	471	382	380
July	350	442	428	485	472	386	381
August	355	455	434	499	481	389	384
September	356	454	446	453	486	390	385
October	350	405	440	457	491	390	388
November	337	382	422	461	489	387	381
December	333	366	415	438	475	386	378
1951 January	342	375	451	449	483	386	377
February	347	409	444	468	489	399	380
March	365	445	428	458	487	400	380
April	360	428	426	482	489	399	384
May	360	446	437	508	492	399	384
June	363	431	450	534	495	400	386
July	359	420	456	546	501	399	387

Source.—State Governments.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN INDIA—contd.

Months	COCHIN (Base : August, 1939=100)				MYSORE (Base : July, 1935 to June, 1936=100)						HYDRABAD (Base: Aug- 1943 to July, 1944=100)	
	Ernakulam		Trichur		Bangalore		Mysore		Kolar Gold Fields		Hydrabad City	
	1950- 51	1951- 52	1950- 51	1951- 52	1950- 51	1951- 52	1950- 51	1951- 52	1950- 51	1951- 52	1950- 51	1951- 52
April	366	382	359	372	307	344	300	349	318	365	159	161
May	368	384	360	376	311	345	308	349	319	365	158	165
June	368	388	360	378	311	345	311	349	325	369	161	171
July	370	389	362	377	319	347	315	351	334	369	164	174
August	374	—	364	—	328	—	318	—	347	—	162	—
September	375	—	366	—	329	—	321	—	350	—	163	—
October	376	—	367	—	333	—	323	—	353	—	162	—
November	375	—	366	—	330	—	315	—	342	—	163	—
December	380	—	371	—	326	—	327	—	344	—	163	—
January	377	—	369	—	328	—	322	—	345	—	164	—
February	377	—	367	—	336	—	327	—	351	—	165	—
March	376	—	366	—	341	—	336	—	363	—	166	—

Source.—State Governments.

LABOUR BUREAU WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS
DURING JULY, 1951

The Working Class cost of living index numbers for 15 selected centres in India are set out in the following tables. These measure the average changes, as compared to the year 1944, in the retail prices of goods and services that entered into working class expenditure as revealed by the family budget enquiries conducted during the years 1943-45 at these centres.

During the month under review the cost of living index went up markedly (by 5 points) in one centre and went down markedly in one centre. In the remaining centres there were fluctuations of minor significance. Short notes analysing the index numbers at the various centres are given below

Delhi

The index number advanced by 1 point to 145 reflecting a rise in the prices of potatoes in the food group and charcoal in the fuel and lighting group.

Ajmer

The index number appreciated by 4 points to 182. There was a drop in the food index due to lower quotations for wheat and gram. Important items recording a rise in the price were firewood in the fuel and lighting group, *dhoti*, *saree*, *orkni* and shirting in the clothing group and washing soap in the miscellaneous group. The item 'education' included in the Miscellaneous group covered the school fees paid for the primary education of children, but as there is a provision for free primary education in this centre, the item is shown blank in the price returns. Accordingly, this item has been excluded in the calculations as from this month and the weights of the remaining items in the group have been redistributed to add to 100. On this new basis the index for the miscellaneous group for

the month of June 1951 would be 193. The exclusion of the item 'education' is responsible for a substantial increase in the index for the miscellaneous group.

Jamshedpur

The index number declined by 3 points to 155. This fall was mainly accounted for by the fall in the prices of rice, potatoes and onions in the food group and *markin* in the clothing group.

Jharia

The index number went down by 5 points to 185. Lower prices of wheat flour and rice were mainly responsible for this fall in the index.

Dehri-on-Sone

The index number declined by 1 point to 198. Important price fluctuations consisted of a fall in the prices of rice, wheat and mustard oil and a rise in the prices of *arhar dal*, potatoes, onions and shoes. For reasons mentioned in the case of Ajmer, the item 'education' was omitted from the miscellaneous group. On the revised basis the index number for the miscellaneous group for the month of June 1951 would be 197.

Cuttack

The index number appreciated by 5 points to 195. An increase in the prices of rice and arum in the food group and a general rise in the prices of clothing articles were responsible for the rise in the cost of living index number.

Berhampur

The index number went up by 1 point to 195 reflecting a rise in the prices of brinjal and plantain in the food group and tobacco in miscellaneous group. There was also an increase in the school fees under the latter group.

Gauhati

The index number recorded a rise of 2 points and stood at 140. Increased prices of rice, milk and clothing articles were responsible for this rise in the index.

Silchar

The index number which had recorded a sharp rise from 158 in May to 171 in June dropped down by 3 points in July to 168. This reduction was mainly due to the fall in the price of rice.

Ludhiana

The index number went up by 3 points to 171 reflecting a rise in the prices of milk and potatoes in the food group.

Akola

The index number went down by 4 points to 161. There was a drop in the prices of cereals, firewood and *pan-supari*.

Jubbulpore

The index number advanced by 4 points to 173, as a number of items like potatoes, onions, *tur dal*, firewood and *pan* recorded a rise in the price.

Kharagpur

The index number appreciated by 2 points to 138. This appreciation was mainly due to higher quotations for *atta*, *ghee*, fish, potatoes and *arhar dal* in the food group.

LABOUR BUREAU WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS—contd.

(Base : 1944=100)

	Delhi	Ajmer	Jamshedpur	Jharia	Dehri-on-Sone	Mon-ghyr and Jamalpur	Cuttack
1945	103	110	100	97	106	105	102
1946	107	118	103	122	131	132	106
1947	122	152	123	139	158	153	117
1948	132	162	136	153	171	166	134
1949	132	161	138	159	170	171	147
1950	132	168	145	182	185	193*	163
July	136	168	141	188	183	203	163
August	136	168	159	209	192	201	164
September	134	168	162	207	196	202	168
October	134	172	157	215	216	206*	168
November	133	167	156	187	218	211*	168
December	129	165	157	177	195	191*	166
1951							
January	134	171	158	176	198	192*	164
February	138	176	157	176	195	194*	165
March	138	174	157	185	198	200*	165
April	139	173	159	187*	199	195*	165
May	140	176	158	190	199	197*	172
June	144	178	158	190	199	194*	190
July	145	182	155	185	195	190*	195

* Provisional.

LABOUR BUREAU WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS—*contd.*

(Base : 1944=100)

	Ber- ham- pur	Gan- hati	Sil- char	Tin- sukia	Ludhi- ana	Akola	Jub- bul- pore	Kharag- pur
1945	101	90	92	94	105	98	95	97
1946	111	86	96	83	119	107	101	100
1947	126	97	110	93	142	139	123	111
1948	145	117	132	109	168	156	146	132
1949	154	128	138	110	164	168	151	137
1950	162	126	146	114	165	162	153	137
July	158	128	147	113	165	165	155	140
August	171	128	157	113	169	167	154	141
September	174	128	162	112	168	166	151	138
October	175	131	160	111	168	168	155	141
November	178	128	156	111	167	174	158	137
December	186	127	145	111	170	167	168	136
1951								
January	189	127	141	109	169	162	171	133
February	188	129	140	109	165	164	169	133
March	188	139	147	121	168	164	166	135
April	192	140	152	121	166	163	166	134
May	192	141	158	169*	165	163	166	135
June	194	138	171	186*	168	165	169	136
July	195	140	168	199*	171	161	173	138

* Provisional

LABOUR BUREAU WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS—contd.

(Base : 1944=100)

DELHI (a)

	Food	Fuel and Light- ing	House Rent	Clothing, Bedding and Footwear	Miscel- laneous	All Items
Weights	61.0	8.8	6.4	10.8	13.0	100.0
1945	103	104	100	99	110	103
1946	108	107	100	100	118	107
1947	124	114	100	111	135	122
1948	125	172	100	138	151	132
1949	126	181	100	125	148	132
1950	126	168	100	138	146	132
1950						
July	131	180	100	139	148	136
August	132	173	100	138	146	136
September	130	162	100	136	146	134
October	131	161	100	137	146	134
November	130	157	100	138	146	133
December	124	150	100	140	147	129
1951						
January	131	160	100	137	147	134
February	136	150	100	147	151	138
March	137	150	100	140	151	138
April	138	150	100	142	153	139
May	138	150	100	151	155	140
June	142	151	100	159	156	144
July	144	154	100	159	156	145

(a) For details of scope and method of construction of the index numbers please see pages 499—500 of the Indian Labour Gazette, January, 1948.

ESTIMATE OF THE DELHI WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX ON THE PRE-WAR BASE : AUGUST, 1939=100

The Labour Bureau Index Numbers published above are based on the average prices of important items of consumption by working class families during the year 1944, the 'weights' used being those determined from the average expenditure on these items as revealed by the family budget enquiry conducted under the Government of India's Cost of Living Index Scheme during the period October, 1943 to October, 1944.

The Chief Commissioner, Delhi has obtained the prices of the items during the month of August, 1939 and has worked out the index with August, 1939 as base using the Labour Bureau 'weights' adjusted to August, 1939 prices. This index worked out to an average figure of 260.8 during 1944. Linking this figure with the Labour Bureau series, the cost of living index number during the month of July, 1951 on the pre-war base viz., August 1939, may be estimated to be 379.

LABOUR BUREAU WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS—*contd.*

(Base : 1944=100)

AJMER—(a)

	Food	Fuel and Lighting	House Rent	Clothing, Bedding and Footwear	Miscellaneous	All Items
Weights	63.7	8.2	3.0	8.2	16.9	100.0
1945	105	110	100	122	122	110
1946	111	110	100	155	135	118
1947	147	151	100	178	171	152
1948	155	166	100	201	176	162
1949	159	165	100	183	164	161
1950	172	143	100	198	161	168
1950						
July	173	136	100	203	161	168
August	173	136	100	201	162	168
September	173	136	100	200	162	168
October	179	136	100	203	161	172
November	169	143	100	209	161	167
December	165	146	100	219	161	165
1951						
January	173	155	100	219	161	171
February	180	157	100	219	161	176
March	176	154	100	221	166	174
April	175	154	100	223	166	173
May	170	154	100	222	166	176
June	182	154	100	222	166	178
July	180	160	100	232	101*	182

(a) For details of scope and method of construction of the index numbers please see pages 53-57 of the "Report on an enquiry into family budgets of industrial workers in Ajmer" by S. R. Deshpande.

* Variation is mainly due to the exclusion of the item 'education'. For further information on the point, please see notes on individual centres.

JAMSHEDPUR—(b)

	Food	Fuel and Lighting	House Rent	Clothing, Bedding and Footwear	Miscellaneous	All Items
Weights	65.8	5.4	4.7	10.2	13.9	100.0
1945	102	100	100	78	105	100
1946	106	105	100	76	100	103
1947	130	120	100	83	129	123
1948	138	154	100	132	133	136
1949	139	156	100	118	149	138
1950	145	171	100	132	150	145
1950						
July	139	172	100	135	158	141
August	163	186	100	131	168	169
September	166	191	100	134	172	162
October	159	191	100	138	171	167
November	156	191	100	145	159	165
December	156	192	100	152	172	167
1951						
January	157	192	100	153	172	168
February	158	100	100	142	171	167
March	159	190	100	141	168	167
April	162	190	100	141	167	169
May	161	190	100	141	155	168
June	160	190	100	141	168	168
July	157	192	100	132	168	165

(b) For details of scope and method of construction of the index numbers please see pages 72-74 of the "Report on an enquiry into family budgets of industrial workers in Jamshedpur" by S. R. Deshpande.

LABOUR BUREAU WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS—contd.
(Base : 1944=100)

JHARIA (a)

	Food	Fuel and Lighting	Clothing, Bedding and Footwear	Miscellaneous	All Items
Weights	77.7	0.5	6.7	15.1	100.0
1945	98	94	81	102	97
1946	128	96	76	108	122
1947	145	104	78	138	139
1948	151	145	123	177	163
1949	159	128	108	183	159
1950	189	115	114	180	182
July					
August	197	113	118	178	188
September	223	116	118	178	209
October	221	116	118	178	207
November	232	116	118	179	215
December	195	113	106	182	187
1951	182	113	106	182	177
January					
February	181	113	107	182	176
March	182	113	106	183	176
April	191	113	125	184	185
May	193	113	125	188	187
June	198	119	125	193	190
July	194	113	131	193	169
	189	113	131	192	185

(a) For details of scope and method of construction of the index numbers please see pages 56-59 of the "Report on an enquiry into family budgets of industrial workers in Jharia" by S. R. Deshpande.

DEHRI-ON-SONE (b)

	Food	Fuel and Lighting	House Rent	Clothing, Bedding and Footwear	Miscellaneous	All Items
Weights	69.6	4.6	2.0	13.5	10.3	100.0
1945	106	109	100	94	118	106
1946	140	120	100	96	129	131
1947	173	129	100	108	150	158
1948	180	126	100	148	171	171
1949	180	147	100	131	183	170
1950	200	164	100	137	177	185
July						
August	196	167	100	134	181	183
September	207	166	100	142	182	192
October	213	165	100	141	182	196
November	243	165	100	139	182	216
December	248	164	100	130	182	218
1951	212	164	100	141	182	195
January						
February	216	164	100	148	182	193
March	211	164	100	148	182	193
April	215	164	100	148	182	193
May	216	162	100	147	189	199
June	216	164	100	147	189	199
July	215	164	100	147	189	199
	212	163	100	152	195*	193

(b) For details of scope and method of construction of the index numbers please see pages 55-58 of the "Report on an enquiry into family budgets of industrial workers in Dehri-on-Sone" by S. R. Deshpande. * Variation is mainly due to the exclusion of the item 'education'. For further information on the point, please see notes on individual centres.

LABOUR BUREAU WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS—*contd.*
(Base : 1944=100)

MONGHYR AND JAMALPUR—(a)

	Food	Fuel and Lighting	House Rent	Clothing, Bedding and Footwear	Miscellaneous	All Items
Weights	69·8	5·6	1·7	10·7	12·2	100·0
1945	107	103	100	90	106	105
1946	143	106	100	106	109	132
1947	170	114	100	100	124	153
1948	178	148	100	147	135	168
1949	189	131	100	129	131	171
1950*	216	126	100	156	143	193
1950						
July	224	138	100	179	150	203
August	224	127	100	168	146	201
September	226	128	100	164	149	202
October*	234	118	100	157	142	206
November*	242	115	100	161	141	211
December*	218	114	100	165	135	194
1951						
January*	215	116	100	165	135	192
February*	218	116	100	161	137	194
March*	220	116	100	184	150	200
April*	220	119	100	147	147	195
May*	221	113	100	154	146	197
June*	216	109	100	168	145	194
July*	207	123	100	179	142	190

(a) For details of scope and method of construction of the index numbers please see pages 48—51 of the "Report on an enquiry into family budgets of industrial workers in Monghyr and Jamalpur" by S.R. Deshpande.

CUTTACK—(b)

	Food	Fuel and Lighting	House Rent	Clothing, Bedding and Footwear	Miscellaneous	All Items
Weights	67·1	8·9	3·0	8·1	12·9	100·0
1945	98	114	100	105	112	102
1946	105	109	100	104	112	106
1947	120	110	100	110	114	117
1948	137	124	100	127	136	134
1949	153	140	100	130	143	147
1950	171	141	100	138	167	163
1950						
July	171	141	100	136	170	163
August	171	141	100	136	173	164
September	176	141	100	141	173	168
October	177	141	100	142	173	168
November	178	141	100	142	173	168
December	175	141	100	142	172	166
1951						
January	173	141	100	144	164	161
February	173	141	100	148	168	165
March	172	141	100	148	168	165
April	174	141	100	148	168	166
May	182	141	100	148	169	172
June	207	142	100	168	170	190
July	211	142	100	193	167	195

(b) For details of scope and method of construction of the index numbers please see page 739 of the Indian Labour Gazette, April, 1948.

* Provisional.

LABOUR BUREAU WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS—*contd.*

(Base : 1944 = 100)

BERHAMPUR—(a)

	Food	Fuel and Lighting	House Rent	Clothing, Bedding and Footwear	Miscellaneous	All Items
Weights	62.4	7.5	3.3	11.0	15.8	100.0
1945	98	105	100	121	95	101
1946	107	135	100	123	110	111
1947	123	162	100	139	115	126
1948	151	162	100	135	130	145
1949	166	155	100	128	140	154
1950	174	158	100	132	150	162
1950						
July	170	147	100	127	149	158
August	189	152	100	140	149	171
September	191	167	100	140	150	174
October	190	177	100	144	154	175
November	193	178	100	146	157	178
December	201	209	100	150	157	186
1951						
January	205	208	100	152	157	189
February	202	209	100	152	162	188
March	202	209	100	157	165	188
April	206	209	100	171	164	192
May	208	209	100	172	151	192
June	209	219	100	177	151	194
July	210	219	100	178	154	195

(a) For details of scope and method of construction of the index numbers please see page 47 of the Indian Labour Gazette, July, 1948.

GAUHATI—(b)

	Food	Fuel and Lighting	House Rent	Clothing, Bedding and Footwear	Miscellaneous	All Items
Weights	63.4	8.6	4.5	5.1	18.4	100.0
1945	89	70	100	98	99	90
1946	85	65	100	96	94	86
1947	100	65	100	95	105	97
1948	124	67	100	143	114	117
1949	129	67	100	215	140	128
1950	128	64	100	162	145	126
1950						
July	131	68	100	148	147	128
August	130	66	100	162	148	128
September	129	60	100	178	149	128
October	130	55	100	241	149	131
November	127	55	100	208	149	128
December	127	55	100	212	147	127
1951						
January	125	61	100	211	146	127
February	128	68	100	214	145	129
March	144	69	100	211	145	139
April	145	69	100	200	149	140
May	146	68	100	203	148	141
June	145	65	100	190	147	138
July	147		100	197	148	140

(b) For details of scope and method of construction of the index numbers please see page 659 of the Indian Labour Gazette, March, 1948.

LABOUR BUREAU WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS—contd.

(Base : 1944=100)

SILCHAR—(a)

	Food	Fuel and Lighting	House Rent	Clothing, Bedding and Footwear	Miscellaneous	All Items
Weights	71.7	7.1	4.4	6.7	10.1	100.0
1945	89	95	100	88	109	92
1946	94	139	100	78	88	96
1947	111	156	100	94	92	110
1948	105	161	100	170	110	132
1949	141	159	100	135	117	138
1950	152	162	100	150	108	146
1950						
July	152	165	100	157	111	147
August	166	165	100	159	110	157
September	173	165	100	158	110	162
October	171	165	100	155	111	160
November	164	165	100	160	113	156
December	148	165	100	160	115	145
1951						
January	143	165	100	158	115	141
February	141	165	100	158	116	140
March	151	165	100	156	122	147
April	158	165	100	161	123	152
May	164	165	100	170	121	158
June	183	165	100	162	127	171
July	178	165	100	162	127	168

(a) For details of scope and method of construction of the index numbers please see page 351 of the Indian Labour Gazette, November, 1948.

TINSUKIA—(b)

	Food	Fuel and Lighting	House Rent	Clothing, Bedding and Footwear	Miscellaneous	All Items
Weights	68.7	7.3	3.2	8.5	12.3	100.0
1945	94	81	100	100	100	94
1946	86	53	100	73	83	83
1947	98	65	100	94	84	93
1948	114	58	100	125	100	109
1949	113	58	100	133	111	116
1950	116	61	100	156	105	114
1950						
July	118	61	100	142	104	113
August	118	61	100	144	102	113
September	116	61	100	144	102	112
October	114	61	100	144	103	111
November	114	61	100	144	103	111
December	114	61	100	144	102	111
1951						
January	112	63	100	144	102	109
February	111	63	100	144	102	109
March	126	63	100	144	118	121
April	127	62	100	143	112	121
May*	185	62	100	235	115	169
June*	211	62	100	231	110	186
July*	231	62	100	226	110	199

(b) For details of scope and method of construction of the index numbers please see page 429 of the Indian Labour Gazette, December, 1948.

* Provisional.

LABOUR BUREAU WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NU

(Base : 1944=100)

LUDHIANA—(a)

	Food	Fuel and Lighting	House Rent	Clothing, Bedding and Footwear	Miscellaneous	All Items
Weights	61.2	9.2	3.7	10.8	15.1	100.0
1945	106	105	100	98	106	105
1946	125	112	100	93	122	119
1947	149	156	100	110	135	142
1948	183	160	100	135	157	168
1949	177	157	100	102	176	164
1950	175	153	100	111	185	165
1950						
July	176	150	100	116	182	165
August	181	149	100	108	195	169
September	170	150	100	108	199	168
October	177	152	100	117	197	168
November	176	152	100	114	195	167
December	179	152	100	120	196	170
1951						
January	179	153	100	119	191	169
February	176	142	100	117	187	165
March	181	140	100	119	183	168
April	174	142	100	139	180	166
May	172	141	100	152	178	165
June	176	142	100	159	177	168
July	180	142	100	160	176	171

(a) For details of scope and method of construction of the index numbers please see pages 45-48 of the "Report on an enquiry into family budgets of industrial workers in Ludhiana" by S. R. Deshpande.

AKOLA (b)

	Food	Fuel and Lighting	House Rent	Clothing, Bedding and Footwear	Miscellaneous	All Items
Weights	58.6	7.3	2.1	13.4	18.6	100.0
1945	99	88	100	91	101	98
1946	116	86	100	90	101	107
1947	164	91	100	96	115	139
1948	175	204	100	100	123	156
1949	193	196	100	105	132	168
1950	190	159	100	105	122	162
1950						
July	197	151	100	105	120	165
August	198	150	100	105	125	167
September	197	150	100	105	127	166
October	200	150	100	105	125	168
November	211	150	100	105	125	174
December	199	150	100	105	126	167
1951						
January	186	150	100	105	138	162
February	187	160	100	105	145	164
March	186	160	100	104	145	164
April	183	160	100	108	146	163
May	183	160	100	108	146	163
June	187	164	100	108	143	165
July	185	162	100	111	131	161

(b) For details of scope and method of construction of the index numbers please see pages 46-49 of the "Report on an enquiry into family budgets of industrial workers in Akola" by S. R. Deshpande.

LABOUR BUREAU WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS—contd.

(Base : 1944=100)

JUBBULPORE (a)

	Food	Fuel and Lighting	House Rent	Clothing, Bedding and Footwear	Miscellaneous	All Items
Weights	58.2	7.2	2.7	12.6	19.3	100.0
1945	90	93	100	85	114	95
1946	98	97	100	79	126	101
1947	121	110	100	88	169	123
1948	149	127	100	121	170	146
1949	152	143	100	123	176	151
1950	152	148	100	114	190	153
1950						
July	152	155	100	108	203	155
August	157	157	100	107	180	154
September	153	153	100	107	179	151
October	156	150	100	113	190	155
November	162	143	100	113	188	158
December	179	143	100	115	189	168
1951						
January	186	136	100	116	187	171
February	183	128	100	123	185	169
March	175	125	100	125	193	166
April	174	125	100	127	193	166
May	174	125	100	128	193	166
June	177	127	100	130	195	169
July	179	142	100	131	203	173

(a) For details of scope and method of construction of the index numbers please see pages 56—59 of the "Report on an enquiry into family budgets of industrial workers in Jubbulpore" by S. R. Deshpande.

KHARAGPUR (b)

	Food	Fuel and Lighting	House Rent	Clothing, Bedding and Footwear	Miscellaneous	All Items
Weights	60.2	5.0	3.4	10.6	10.0	100.0
1945	97	110	100	83	109	97
1946	102	97	100	76	113	100
1947	116	106	100	80	119	111
1948	135	116	100	126	129	132
1949	142	114	100	125	142	137
1950	142	109	100	130	144	137
1950						
July	146	110	100	130	141	140
August	146	111	100	135	141	141
September	142	110	100	139	141	138
October	144	109	100	146	141	141
November	141	109	100	141	138	137
December	138	109	100	147	136	136
1951						
January	133	109	100	147	137	133
February	133	108	100	146	139	133
March	135	113	100	150	141	135
April	134	113	100	150	140	134
May	136	117	100	150	140	135
June	138	120	100	138	145	136
July	140	121	100	138	145	139

(b) For details of scope and method of construction of the index numbers please see pages 45—48 of the "Report on an enquiry into family budgets of industrial workers in Kharagpur" by S. R. Deshpande.

LABOUR BUREAU COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR PLANTATION WORKERS IN COORG

Scope and Method of Construction

At present no working class cost of living index numbers are published for plantation areas in the country. In the year 1947, in pursuance of a decision taken in the First Tripartite Conference on Tea Plantations, the Labour Bureau conducted certain *ad hoc* enquiries into the cost and standard of living of plantation workers in South India (Madras, Coorg and Cochin) and North India (Assam and Bengal). The primary object of these enquiries was to collect data on the basis of which it would be possible to make an assessment of what should be the reasonable rates of wages for different classes of workers in plantations. As a part of these enquiries, rapid family budget investigations were also made among the plantation workers. In view of the fact that wages of plantation workers may have to be regulated in accordance with the fluctuations in their cost of living and the consequent need for a cost of living index number series, side by side with the family budget investigations in the different plantation areas, certain plantation centres were chosen for purposes of collection of retail prices of selected commodities of consumption and the price data are being collected every week. Utilising the data collected in the course of above-mentioned rapid family budget enquiries among the plantation workers in Coorg and also the retail prices regularly collected from the selected centre, namely, Mercara, it has now been possible for the Bureau to compile an interim series of cost of living index numbers for plantation workers in Coorg. It may, however, be emphasised that this series is based on the results of rapid family budget enquiries on a small scale and may be subject to several limitations. It should, therefore, be regarded purely as an interim series. The scope and method of construction of this series is briefly dealt with below.

(1) *Family Budget Enquiry.*—The period of the enquiry into the family budgets of plantation workers in South India was from July to September, 1947. In all, 39 family budgets were collected from the estates in Coorg. Of these, 35 related to workers employed in coffee estates and 4 to workers employed in rubber estates. The average consumption expenditure of a plantation worker's family in Coorg has been worked out on the basis of these 39 budgets and is given in Annexure 1. It may, however, be emphasised that this average budget is based on a very small sample of families and may also be subject to some seasonal bias, as the enquiry was limited to a small part of the year only.

(2) *Collection of Retail Prices.*—For purposes of the index, the Chief Commissioner of Coorg suggested Mercara as the suitable centre for price collection in Coorg. Accordingly, prices of the items of consumption given in Annexure II are regularly being collected every Friday since March, 1948 in a standard schedule according to prescribed instructions from the two retail shops at Mercara, selected in consultation with the Chief Commissioner, Coorg. It may, however, be mentioned that the two selected shops at Mercara may not be quite representative in the sense that these shops may not cater to the needs of all the workers covered by the Family Budget Enquiry. At this stage, however, it has not been considered proper to collect and utilise price-data from additional shops in the computation of the interim series because base prices of this series have been worked out on the basis of quotations furnished from two shops only and it is desirable to maintain, as far as possible, comparability between the base prices and current prices in the computation of cost of living index numbers. Moreover, it would not be possible now to get price quotations for the previous years from the additional shops. The Inspector of Factories, Coorg, is in charge of the retail price collection work at Mercara and his work is supervised by the Assistant Commissioner of Coorg. The weekly retail price returns are scrutinised in the Office of the Chief Commissioner, Coorg and in the Labour Bureau before they are finally utilised for the compilation of the index.

(3) *Base Period.*—Though the family budget enquiry was conducted in Coorg in 1947, the work of retail price collection at Mercara could be organised only in 1948. It was, therefore, not possible to have a base period exactly synchronising with the period of the family budget enquiry. On a balance of considerations it was finally decided to adopt the six months from July to December 1948 as the base period for the index though a base period of full one year would probably have been better as it would have completely eliminated seasonal effects, if any, from the base-prices.

(4) *Items included.*—As is well known, it is neither practicable nor necessary to price all the items recorded in the average family budget for purposes of computing the cost of living index number. It is sufficient if a representative set of items under each of the main consumption groups is included in the index. Accordingly, the items shown in column (1) of Annexure II were selected for inclusion in the cost of living index number in consultation with the Chief Commissioner, Coorg. The criteria which were taken into consideration while selecting the items for inclusion in the index were (a) importance and representativeness of the items in the respective consumption groups, (b) availability of suitable units for pricing and

(c) availability of regular price data. In all 46 items were included in the cost of living index number series for Mercara. Out of these, 27 belong to the food group, 2 to the lighting group, 7 to the clothing and bedding group and 10 to the miscellaneous group. The family budget enquiry revealed that the workers surveyed were given free quarters and since the rents of these quarters were not estimated at the time of the enquiry it was not found possible to include the group House Rent in the index number. Similarly, in the case of fuel also, no expenditure was recorded in the family budget and, therefore, no item under fuel was included in the index. For pricing the above items, suitable grades and units were chosen by the officers of the Chief Commissioner, Coorg, under the general guidance and directions of the Labour Bureau. These particulars are shown in columns (2) and (3) of Annexure II. The grades, etc., chosen for the items included in the index were generally those popular with the plantation workers. In the case of clothing items (*dhoti*, *saree*, shirting, short and blouse), great difficulty was experienced in selecting definite grades for pricing, because the grades available in the market varied from week to week and from shop to shop during the same week. It was, therefore, not possible to lay down precise specifications for the grades to be priced under the clothing items but in general certain popular handloom or mill varieties were selected. As far as possible, prices are collected for grades comparable with these varieties. In the case of *dhoti*, *saree* and shirting, prices were collected for handloom varieties only during the base period and as such only handloom cloth is priced under these items. In the case of shorts and blouses, however, both mill and handloom varieties are taken into account because back-quotations for both varieties for the base period could be furnished by the office of the Chief Commissioner, Coorg. For the item *Pan-Supari*, betel leaves and betel nuts are priced separately. The price of tobacco is ascertained on market days. Since it is found difficult to quote the price of one particular variety, the minimum and maximum prices of this commodity prevailing in the market are reported in the price returns. A pooled average of all the quotations in respect of this item is taken for purposes of compiling the index number. In the case of cocoanut also, a pooled average of quotations relating to small and big varieties is taken.

(5) *Allocation of weights to the items within the consumption groups.*—Weights for the items included in the cost of living index numbers are derived on the basis of proportionate expenditure as revealed by the average budget. As mentioned earlier, however, several items shown in the various groups in the average budget have not been represented in the cost of living index number. The

problem, therefore, arises as to how to treat the expenditure recorded on these items. In this connection, attention is drawn to the following principle laid down by the I.L.O. :

"The true principle should be to weight the items priced by the weights corresponding to their consumption expenditure, to which may be added the weights of items not priced, provided that the price movements of the former are representative of the price movements of the latter. If three food items, for example, exhibit similar price trends and only one is included in the index, this can logically be given the weight corresponding to all three."*

The Bureau could not take up detailed studies about similarity or dissimilarity of price trends of the various items not represented in the index with those represented in the index. However, from a general experience of price behaviour and in consultation with the Chief Commissioner, Coorg, it was decided to impute the expenditure on some of the items falling under the first category (i.e. not represented in the index) to that of others belonging to the same consumption group and falling under the second category (i.e. included in the index). Even then, there were some items, the expenditure on which could not be appropriately imputed to any of the items included in the index and such expenditure had, therefore, to be omitted from the respective groups. The details of imputation and omission of expenditure within each group are shown below :—

Consumption group	Items on which expenditure was recorded but which have not been included in the index	Treatment of the expenditure of items shown in column (2)
1	2	3
Food	(a) Cholam	Expenditure has been distributed on the cereals included in the index in proportion to their respective expenditure.
	(b) Moong dal	Expenditure has been distributed on the pulses included in the index in proportion to their respective expenditure.
	(c) Beef	Expenditure has been added to that of mutton.
	(d) Other vegetables	Expenditure has been distributed on the vegetables included in the index in proportion to their respective expenditure.
	(e) Garmmasala and other spices.	Expenditure has been distributed on salt and spices included in the index in proportion to their respective expenditure.
	(f) Gur	Expenditure has been added to that of jaggery.
	(g) Sweet potatoes & garlic.	Expenditure has been omitted.

* Cost of Living Statistics—Methods and techniques for the post-war period—I.L.O. Report—1948.

1	2	3
Clothing, Bedding and Footwear.	(a) Froeks and <i>gagrees</i>	Expenditure has been distributed on <i>sarees</i> and blouses in proportion to their respective expenditure.
	(b) Vests . . .	Expenditure has been added to that of shirting.
	(c) Coating . . .	Expenditure has been added to that of shorts.
	(d) Other clothing articles.	Expenditure has been distributed on all the clothing items included in the index in proportion to their respective expenditure.
Miscellaneous . . .	(e) Upper cloth . . .	Expenditure has been omitted.
	(a) Cigarette . . .	Expenditure has been added to that of <i>bidi</i> .
	(b) Cooking pots, trunks and boxes, coats, mats, hair oil, <i>ganja</i> and <i>charas</i> , umbrellas, <i>hukka</i> and religious festivals.	Expenditure has been omitted.

After carrying out the above transfers of expenditure, the resultant expenditure on each item within a group was expressed as a percentage of the total expenditure included in the group to derive the weight for that item within the group. The weights of individual items were calculated correct to two decimal places and within each group the weights of all the individual items added upto 100. The weights, derived as above, for the various items included in the index are shown in column (5) of Annexure II.

(6) *Allocation of weights to the consumption groups.*—Though within some of the consumption groups expenditure on some items was omitted, while allocating weights to the various groups the total expenditure on the groups, as shown in the average budget, was taken into account. Thus, the weights for the various consumption groups were derived as percentages of total expenditure on the groups to the total expenditure for all the groups, as recorded in the average budget derived from the family budget enquiry. The group weights, therefore, include even the expenditure which was omitted while constructing the weights of individual items within the groups. This is in accordance with the practices followed in the U.K., U.S.A. and Canada for the construction of their official cost of living index numbers. The implication of this method is that the items whose expenditure has been omitted within a group will follow the price trend of that group as a whole as calculated from the items included in that group, i.e., they will follow the trend of the group index number. The weights for the various consumption groups of the Mercara index, derived on the basis of the above method, are also shown in Annexure II. These figures have been calculated correct to one decimal place only and they necessarily add up to 100. It may also be mentioned that following the usual practice of the Bureau,

the expenditure on "household requisites", e.g., cots, mats, trunks and boxes, cooking utensils, etc., has been taken under the Miscellaneous Group. The following statement will show the coverage of the different groups in terms of the number of items included and also in terms of percentage expenditure accounted for by the items included in the groups. It will be seen from this Statement that considering all the groups, the expenditure omitted within the groups formed only 2.8 per cent. of the total expenditure of an average family of a plantation worker, as revealed by the family budget enquiry in Coorg.

Consumption group	No. of items on which expenditure was recorded, as shown in the average budget	No. of items which have been included in the cost of living index number	Percentage of expenditure accounted for by the items mentioned in Col. (3)	Percentage of expenditure imputed to the items mentioned in Col. (3)	Percentage of expenditure accounted for by the group as a whole (Col. 4 + Col. 5).
1	2	3	4	5	6
Food . . .	36	27	94.7	4.7	99.4
Lighting . . .	2	2	100.0	—	100.0
Clothing . . .	13	7	91.0	8.4	99.4
Miscellaneous . . .	20	10	87.8	1.0	88.8
All groups .	71	46	92.9	4.3	97.2

(7) *Compilation of base-prices of the items included in the index.*—As mentioned earlier, the Bureau has been receiving weekly retail price returns from Mercara since March, 1948. Price data for most of the items included in the index for the base period, viz., July to December, 1948, were available in these returns. For each of these items, weekly quotations were averaged to yield the average monthly price for each of the months from July to December, 1948. The base prices were then compiled by taking a simple average of the average monthly prices for the six months. Generally these base-prices were calculated correct to the nearest pie but in the case of some items, for which either the base prices were comparatively low or the items had considerable weights in the group, the base-prices were calculated correct to one decimal place in pies.

In the case of fish, the base-price was an average of three monthly average prices only, because the grade selected for pricing this item was not available during October to December, 1948. Similarly, no quotation was available for shirting during November, 1948 and as such the base-price for this item was computed on the basis of the average monthly prices for 5 months only. Some of the items (viz., milk, ghee, turmeric, sweetmeats, tea, coffee, towels, shorts, blouses, blankets, earthen pots, toilet soap, travelling expenses, liquor and toddy) included in the index were, however, not originally included in the weekly retail price returns. At the request of the Bureau, the Chief Commissioner, Coorg. therefore, made

arrangements to collect and furnish average monthly prices for these items from July, 1948, to November, 1949. These prices could, however, be only approximate as they had to be collected from the old records of the shopkeepers, etc. The base prices of the above items were compiled by taking a simple average of the back-quotations furnished by the Office of the Chief Commissioner, Coorg for the period July, 1948 to December, 1948. Since December, 1949, however, the above items have been included in the retail price returns and weekly quotations are regularly being received in respect of these items.

The base-prices for all the items included in the index are shown in column (4) of Annexure II. It will be seen that under shorts and blouses, separate base-prices have been taken for each of the two varieties included. Similarly under the item *Pan-Supari*, separate base-prices have been computed for betel leaves and betel nuts.

(8) *Method of computation of the cost of living index numbers.*—The cost of living index number is compiled in two stages. In the first stage, the group index numbers are calculated by taking a weighted average of the price relatives of the items included in each consumption group. In the second stage a weighted average of the group index numbers is compiled and this weighted average is the general cost of living index number. The details of the procedure are explained below :

A pooled average of all the weekly quotations for the current month is calculated for each of the items included in the index. Generally these averages are calculated correct to the nearest pie, but in some cases, where the corresponding base-prices are correct to one decimal point in pies, they are calculated correct to one decimal place in pies. The average monthly prices for the current months, thus obtained, are then expressed as percentages of the corresponding base-prices to yield the price relatives. These price relatives are calculated correct to one decimal place only. In each group, the price relative of each item is then multiplied by its weight. The products are taken correct to the nearest integer and totalled up. The sum of the products is divided by the sum of the weights, viz., 100, in each group to yield the group index numbers and these group index numbers are taken correct to one decimal place only. The group index numbers are then multiplied by the group weights. The products, taken correct to the nearest integer, are totalled up and divided by the sum of the group weights, viz., 100, to yield the general cost of living index number. The cost of living index numbers are generally taken correct to the nearest integer only.

In the case of the three items, viz., shorts, blouses and *pan-supari*, for which two different grades or articles are priced, a simple average of the price relatives for the two grades or articles included under each of the three items is taken and this average price relative is multiplied by the weight of the item.

The group index numbers and the general cost of living index numbers of the new interim series for Mercara (Base : July to December, 1948=100) are shown in Annexure III from January 1949 onwards.

ANNEXURE I

Statement showing the average expenditure of a plantation worker's family in Coorg

(Based on an analysis of 39 family budgets)

1	Average weekly expenditure	Percentage to total weekly expenditure
	2	3
FOOD—	Rs. A. P.	
Cereals—		
1. Rice	0 6 1	4.78
2. Wheat	0 0 10	0.65
3. Paddy	2 4 9	28.84
4. Ragi	0 0 5	0.33
5. Cholum	0 0 5	0.33
	2 12 6	31.03
Pulses—		
6. Moong dal	0 0 2	0.13
7. Gram dal	0 1 11	1.50
8. Thattapayro	0 0 9	0.59
9. Arhar dal	0 0 2	0.13
	0 3 0	2.35
Meat and Fish—		
10. Mutton	0 0 11	0.72
11. Beef	0 0 3	0.20
12. Fish	0 3 4	2.62
	0 4 6	3.54
Milk—		
13. Milk	0 0 10	0.65
14. Ghee (veg.)	0 0 2	0.13
	0 1 0	0.78
Oils—		
15. Groundnut	0 1 10	1.44
16. Coconut	0 3 6	2.74
17. Gingelly	0 0 3	0.20
	0 5 7	4.38
Vegetables—		
18. Potatoes	0 0 8	0.52
19. Onions	0 1 11	1.50
20. Sweet potato	0 0 3	0.20
21. Coconut	0 4 2	3.27
22. Others	0 2 7	2.63
	0 9 7	7.52

ANNEXURE I—contd.

1	2	3
Salt and Spices—	Rs. A. P.	
23. Salt	0 1 7	1.24
24. Chillies	0 2 5	1.89
25. Turmeric	0 0 7	0.46
26. Garlic	0 0 3	0.20
27. Coriander	0 1 7	1.24
28. Garammasala	0 0 1	0.07
29. Tamarind	0 1 2	0.92
30. Others	0 0 4	0.26
	0 8 0	6.28
Sugar, Gur, etc.—		
31. Sugar	0 0 3	0.20
32. Jaggery	0 3 5	2.68
33. Gur	0 0 2	0.13
	0 3 10	3.01
Other items of food—		
34. Sweetmeats	0 3 7	2.81
35. Coffee	0 0 5	0.33
36. Tea	0 1 5	1.11
	0 5 5	4.25
Total : Food	5 5 5	67.04
LIGHTING—		
Lighting—		
1. Kerosene Oil	0 1 0.5	6.82
2. Match Box	0 1 0.5	0.81
Total : Lighting	0 2 1	1.63
CLOTHING, ETC.—		
1. Dhotis	0 1 10	1.44
2. Shirts	0 2 0	1.56
3. Towel	0 0 7	0.46
4. Vest	0 0 3	0.20
5. Coats	0 0 1	0.07
6. Shorts	0 1 1	0.85
7. Sarees	0 4 0	3.13
8. Upper cloth	0 0 1	0.07
9. Frocks	0 0 1	0.07
10. Gaggrees	0 0 3	0.20
11. Blouse	0 1 5	1.11
12. Blankets	0 1 9	1.37
13. Others	0 0 6	0.39
Total : Clothing	0 13 11	10.92

ANNEXURE I—concl'd.

1	2	3
	Rs. A. P.	
MISCELLANEOUS—		
Bedding—		
1. Cots	0 0 1	0·07
2. Mats	0 0 2	0·13
	0 0 3	0·20
Furniture—		
3. Trunks and Boxes	0 0 1	0·07
Cooking Utensils—		
4. Cooking pots	0 0 6	0·39
5. Earthen pots	0 1 7	1·24
	0 2 1	1·63
Total : Household requisites	0 2 5	1·90
OTHERS—		
Toilet requisites—		
6. Soap (Toilet)	0 0 5	0·33
7. Soap (Washing)	0 2 0	1·56
8. Hair Oils	0 0 3	0·20
9. Shave and haircut	0 0 7	0·46
	0 3 3	2·55
Intoxicants—		
10. Liquor	0 3 1	2·42
11. Toddy	0 4 3	3·34
12. Chewing Tobacco	0 2 1	1·63
13. Ganja & Charas	0 0 3	0·20
14. Cigarettes	0 0 3	0·20
15. Pan-supari	0 5 6	4·31
16. Bidis	0 2 2	1·70
17. Hukkah	0 0 5	0·33
	1 2 0	14·13
18. Travelling expenses	0 1 2	0·92
19. Umbrella	0 0 4	0·26
20. Religious Festivals	0 0 10	0·65
	0 2 4	1·83
Total : Miscellaneous items	1 10 0	20·41
Total : All groups	7 15 5	100·00
1. Food	5 5 5	67·04
2. Lighting	0 2 1	1·63
3. Clothing, etc.	0 13 11	10·92
4. Miscellaneous	1 10 0	20·41
	7 15 5	100·00

Items excluded from the average budget.

Remittances to dependants 0 0 9

ANNEXURE II

Details of the specifications, base prices, weights, etc., of the items included in the new interim series of Labour Bureau Cost of Living Index Numbers for Plantation Workers at Mercara (Coorg)

(Base : July—December, 1948=100)

Namo of Article	Grade and specifica- tion	Unit	Base Price	Weight
1	2	3	4	5
			Rs. A. P.	
<i>Food Group.</i>				
Rice . . .	—	1 lb.	0 2 6.2	7.23
Wheat . . .	—	Do.	0 3 2.2	0.99
Paddy . . .	—	Do.	0 1 6.5	43.69
Ragi . . .	—	Do.	0 1 10.3	0.49
Gram Dal . . .	—	Do.	0 6 1	2.38
Arhar Dal . . .	Thomarai . . .	Do.	0 6 6	0.22
Thattapayre Dal . . .	—	Do.	0 5 9	0.93
Mutton . . .	—	Do.	0 14 8	1.37
Dried Fish . . .	Mathi . . .	Do.	0 12 0	3.93
Milk . . .	—	Do.	0 3 6	0.98
Ghee (Veg.) . . .	R. A. S. Brand . . .	Do.	1 1 8	0.20
Groundnut Oil . . .	—	Do.	0 10 11	2.16
Cocoanut Oil . . .	—	Do.	0 15 9	4.12
Gingelly Oil . . .	—	Do.	0 11 10	0.30
Potatoes . . .	—	Do.	0 3 2	1.09
Onions . . .	—	Do.	0 1 9	3.12
Cocoanut . . .	Average of small and big varieties.	each	0 3 3	6.78
Salt . . .	—	1 lb.	0 1 0	1.97
Chillies . . .	—	Do.	0 11 11	3.00
Turmeric . . .	—	Do.	0 12 0	0.73
Coriander . . .	—	Do.	0 5 4.5	1.97
Tamarind . . .	—	Do.	0 2 9	1.45
Jaggery (gur) . . .	—	Do.	0 3 5	4.22
Sugar . . .	—	Do.	0 7 11	0.30
Sweetmeats . . .	Jilabi . . .	Do.	2 8 6	4.22
Tea . . .	Ready made . . .	Cup . . .	0 1 6	1.67
Coffee . . .	Do. . .	Do. . .	0 1 6	0.49
Total . . .				100.00
<i>Lighting Group</i>				
Kerosene oil . . .	—	per bottle of 24 ozs	0 3 10	50.00
Match Box . . .	—	per box of 60 sticks	0 0 9	50.00
Total . . .				100.00

ANNEXURE II—concl'd.

Namo of Articles 1	Grade and specifica- tion 2	Unit 3	Base Price 4	Weight 5
<i>Clothing and Bedding Group</i>				
Dhotis . . .	Handloom . . .	2 Yds.	1 14 0	13.80
Shirting . . .	Handloom . . .	1 Yd.	0 9 7	16.99
Towels . . .	—	per picce of 28" × 48"	1 0 0	4.40
Shorts . . .	Handloom . . .	1½ Yds.	1 2 0	8.79
	Mill . . .	1½ Yds.	1 3 3	
Sarees . . .	Handloom . . .	5 Yds.	4 11 1	32.05
Blouses . . .	Handloom . . .	1 Yd.	0 15 0	11.32
Blanket . . .	Mill (chint) . . .	1 Yd.	0 9 2	
	—	Each	3 12 0	12.65
Total . . .				100.00
<i>Miscellaneous Group</i>				
Earthen Pot . . .	Medium size . . .	Each	1 0 0	6.86
Washing Soap . . .	No. 808 . . .	16 ozs.	0 8 0	8.66
Toilet Soap . . .	Hamam . . .	Cake	0 6 0	1.80
Liquor . . .	Arrack from Molasses	Bottle of 24 ozs.	2 8 0	13.36
Toddy . . .	From palmyra . . .	40 ozs.	0 2 0	18.41
Shave and Haircut . . .	—	Per man	0 6 0	2.53
Tobacco . . .	Chewing (Average of maximum and minimum prices) . . .	1 lb.	2 0 6	9.03
Pan-supari . . .	Nuts	1 lb.	1 2 9	23.83
Bidis . . .	Leaves	100	0 4 11	
Travelling expenses . . .	—	Bundle of 25 Bidis	0 2 0	10.47
	Cheruvathur (Malabar) to Mercara including feeding charges.	Per trip by Bus . . .	5 0 0	5.05
Total . . .				100.00
<i>Group Weights</i>				
Food	—	—	—	67.0
Lighting	—	—	—	1.7
Clothing, etc.	—	—	—	10.9
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	20.4
Total . . .				100.00

ANNEXURE III

Interim series of Labour Bureau Cost of Living Index Numbers for
Plantation Workers at Mercara (Coorg)

(Base : July—December, 1948=100)

				Food	Lighting	Clothing etc.	Miscel- laneous	All Items
Weight				67·0	1·7	10·9	20·4	100·0
1949								
	January	..	..	107·4	100·0	102·6	102·0	106
	February	..	..	108·8	100·0	102·5	105·6	107
	March	..	..	108·0	100·0	101·2	105·9	107
	April	..	..	108·3	100·0	100·6	118·0	(1) 109
	May	..	..	109·2	100·0	101·5	121·4	111
	June	..	..	113·3	100·0	101·4	118·3	(2) 113
	July	..	..	114·0	100·0	101·3	117·1	113
	August	..	..	112·5	100·0	100·4	117·5	112
	September	..	..	113·6	100·0	95·3	119·9	113
	October	..	..	115·8	100·0	93·2	119·9	114
	November	..	..	115·7	100·0	94·5	119·9	114
	December	..	..	117·3	99·6	94·6	118·4	115
1950								
	January	..	..	117·9	98·9	92·6	117·6	115
	February	..	..	115·5	98·9	93·1	116·8	113
	March	..	..	115·3	98·9	92·4	114·6	112
	April	..	..	114·7	98·9	92·4	116·8	112
	May	..	..	116·3	98·9	92·4	119·5	114
	June	..	..	120·1	98·9	101·2	118·2	(3) 117
	July	..	..	123·4	98·9	102·4	118·3	(4) 120
	August	..	..	121·5	98·9	103·3	122·5	119
	September	..	..	120·6	98·9	105·8	123·4	119
	October	..	..	118·9	98·9	112·9	122·8	119
	November	..	..	113·5	98·9	109·4	122·6	(5) 115
	December	..	..	114·4	98·9	109·4	122·6	115
1951								
	January	..	..	113·0	98·9	111·9	124·2	115
	February	..	..	111·4	98·9	115·7	128·8	115
	March	..	..	112·9	102·2	119·8	131·0	(6) 117
	April	..	..	113·1	102·2	124·0	132·3	118
	May	..	..	113·2	102·2	125·2	128·3	117
	June	..	..	114·6	102·2	132·9	126·1	(7) 119
	July	..	..	114·3	102·2	145·3	125·9	120

(1) The rise in the index as compared to the previous month was due to an appreciation in the prices of liquor and toddy in the miscellaneous group.

(2) The rise in the index as compared to the previous month was due to an appreciation in the prices of potatoes, onions and jaggery (gur) in the food group.

(3) The advance in the index, as compared to the previous month, was due to rise in prices of *dhoti*, shirting, shorts and blankets in the clothing group and dried fish and cocoanut in the food group.

(4) The appreciation in the index, as compared to the previous month, was due to an advance in the price of coriander in the food group.

(5) The fall in the index, as compared to the previous month, was due to a fall in the prices of dried fish and jaggery in the food group and shirting in the clothing group.

(6) The rise in the index, as compared to the previous month, was due to increased prices of dried fish and tobacco.

(7) The rise in the index, as compared to the previous month, was due to higher quotations for onions, *dhoti*, chintz and blanket.

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR LOW-PAID EMPLOYEES AT DIFFERENT MUFASSAL CENTRES IN MADRAS

(Base : July, 1935 to June, 1936=100)

Month and year	Visa kha- patnam	Eluru	Bellary	Cudda- lore	Tiru- chira- palli	Madhu- rai	Coimba- tore	Kozhi- kode
1948	338	367	370	372	351	331	337	394
1949	360	396	378	364	365	360	385	409
1950	354	404	383	371	372	348	388	428
July	360	407	382	369	371	345	394	439
August	365	406	371	368	375	350	396	438
September	363	419	372	378	378	354	396	439
October	366	416	369	392	376	354	392	427
November	361	415	380	384	376	355	391	417
December	358	410	371	383	374	348	389	411
1951 January	358	407	375	384	371	344	389	419
February	356	413	375	382	367	349	389	427
March	354	416	377	382	370	354	392	440
April	356	425	378	385	369	357	398	450
May	364	435	389	384	366	360	402	459
June	376	437	393	384	367	366	410	468
July	379	444	398	384	365	369	421	464

Source :—Public (Economics and Statistics) Department, Government of Madras.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN RANGOON

The table below shows the percentage variations in the estimated cost on an austerity basis, of one month's supply of food-stuffs and commodities for the principal groups of Indian work-people, viz., Tamils, Telegus and Uriyas on a singleman basis.

(Base : Year 1941=100)

Month and Year	Food	Fuel and Lighting	Clothing	Miscella- neous	House Rent	All Items combined
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1950						
July	391	214	638	454	266	380
August	390	201	475	454	266	368
September	379	204	440	454	266	359
October	352	197	440	454	266	341
November	344	192	443	454	266	335
December	344	182	423	454	266	333
1951						
January	354	190	418	454	266	340
February	347	214	418	454	266	337
March	322	198	426	459	266	321
April	329	191	437	476	266	327
May	337	201	443	476	266	333
June	368	189	453	476	266	353
July	391	172	461	476	266	367

Source :—Weekly notes by the Director of Labour, Burma.

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES
(Base : 1937=100)

Country	U. K.	U.S.A.	Canada	Australia	Turkey	Ceylon
Town					Istanbul	Columbo(c)
1938	101	98	101	103	100	—
1939	103	97	100	105	101	105
1940	119	98	104	110	112	112
1941	129	102	110	115	138	122
1942	130	113	116	125	232	164
1943	129	120	117	129	346	195
1944	130	122	117	129	338	200
1945	132	125	118	129	353	221
1946	132	136	122	131	341	229
1947	102(a)(b)	155	134	136	343	252
1948	108	167	153	148	345	260
1949	111	165	159	162	378	255
1950	114	167	165	179	360	272
June	114	166	163	176†	357	271
July	114	168	166	180	350	272
August	113	168	167		343	271
September	114	169	168		341	283
October	115	170	169	188	346	278
November	116	171	169		348	277
December	116	174	169		351	273
1951 January	117	177	170	196	354	281
February	118	179	173		—	281
March	119	180	178		—	284
April	121	180	180	210	—	283
May	124	181	180		—	282
June	124	—	182		—	281

(a) New Series from July, 1947 ; Base : 17th June, 1947 = 100.

(b) July to December.

(c) Base : November, 1938 to April, 1939 = 100.

* August-December.

† Relates to quarter ending June, 1950.

Source :—International Labour Office.

Retail and Wholesale Prices

MOVEMENT OF RETAIL PRICES IN SELECTED URBAN AND RURAL CENTRES DURING THE MONTH OF JULY, 1951

Unweighted retail price index numbers for 18 urban and 12 rural centres are given in the following tables. These measure the fluctuations in the retail prices of certain groups of consumption items as compared to their average prices during 1944.

Urban Centres

The index number for 'all articles of food' continued to show an upward trend in a majority of the centres during the month under review. This upward trend was mainly due to an increase in the prices of vegetables like potatoes, onions, etc. An analysis by the various consumption groups is given below :

Cereals.—The index number for this sub-group declined at 7 centres, increased at 6 centres and remained stationary at as many as 4 centres. There was an appreciable fall in the price of gram at Bareilly.

Pulses.—The index number for this sub-group declined at 9 centres, advanced slightly at 4 centres and remained stationary at 4 other centres. At Lucknow and Gouripore, there was a general decrease in the prices of pulses.

Other articles of food.—The index number for this sub-group appreciated in a majority of the centres. The highest rise of 14 points was recorded at Agra and was caused by higher quotations for milk, potatoes and onions.

Fuel and Lighting.—The index number for this group also advanced in a majority of the centres. A noteworthy rise in the index number was recorded at Raniganj and this was solely due to an increase in the price of cowdung-cakes.

Miscellaneous.—The index number for this group declined in a majority of the centres mainly due to a fall in the price of *pan*. At 4 centres, the index numbers receded by 10 points or more.

Rural Centres.

The index number for 'all articles of food' appreciated in a majority of the centres. At Muniguda, an appreciable rise in the index was recorded due to higher quotations for rice, edible oil and chillies. The index number for 'cereals' advanced in a majority of the centres mainly due to a rise in the price of rice. In the sub-group 'pulses' a noteworthy rise in the prices of *arhar*, *masoor* and gram dals was noticed at Salamatpur. The index number for 'other articles of food' fluctuated in both directions. The prices of items in the 'fuel and lighting' group remained stationary at many centres. The index number for this group, however, recorded a fall of 13 points at Kudchi due to a decrease in the price of kerosene oil and a rise of 12 points at Krishna due to higher quotations for groundnut oil and match box. There was a sharp rise in the index number for the 'clothing' group at Malur due to an increase in the prices of dhoti, turban cloth, and shirt. At Muniguda, however, the index number for this group declined by 13 points due solely to a fall in the price of *saree*. The fluctuations of the index number for 'miscellaneous' group were rather wide, ranging from a fall of 24 points at Bamra to a rise of 19 points at Sonaili.

RETAIL PRICE INDEX NUMBERS BY GROUPS

(Base :

Name of Centre and State	Cereals			Pulses			Other articles of Food		
	July, '50	June, '51	July, '51	July, '50	June, '51	July, '51	July, '50	June, '51	July, '51
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
I.—Bombay :									
Hubli . .	141	133	133	116	142	141	180	197	197
Surat . .	102	116	117	132	159	163	167	162	166
Dohad . .	132	139	148	150	174	176	187	210	201
II.—Punjab (I) :									
Amritsar .	2	148	153	2	153	154	2	174	177
III.—Uttar Pradesh :									
Lucknow .	140	146	146	159	198	192	182	160	173
Agra . .	131	143	135	163	211	208	181	176	190
Baroilly .	155	164	153a	180	216	215	187	186	193
Banaras .	159	158	149	149	193	192	221	200	207
Meerut . .	185	150	160	168	201	199	210	187	187
IV.—Bihar :									
Patna . .	223	241	..	140	186	..	207	199	..
V.—West Bengal :									
Howrah . .	137	140	140	132	134	134	196	187	187
Budgo Budgo	152	147	145	131	140	140	197	187	192
Kankinara .	133	135	130	124	131	128	182	182	187
Raniganj . .	183	187	190	118	123	124	204	187	189
Calcutta . .	138	138	140	130	136	136	190	194	193
Gouripore .	130	138	135	122	141	134	177	188	188
Serampore .	145	142	141	133	142	140	196	186	183
Kanchrapara .	134	139	141	137	146	146	191	185	189

(a) Fall in the price of gram.

(b) Rise in the prices of milk, potatoes and onions.

(c) Rise in the price of cowdung-cakes.

AT 18 SELECTED URBAN CENTRES

1944=100)

All Articles of Food			Fuel & Lighting			Miscellaneous			Name of Centre and State
July, '50	June, '51	July, '51	July, '50	June, '51	July, '51	July, '50	June, '51	July, '51	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
									I.—Bombay :
165	182	182	109	102	105	155	184	186	Hubli
149	152	155	99	97	99	158	175	170	Surat
172	192	193	167	123	126	162	170	171	Dohad
									II.—Punjab (I) :
	166	169	x	110	110	x	176	176	Amritsar
									III.—Uttar Pradesh :
169	169	170	118	125	126	151	185	169d	Luoknow
167	174	181	115	137	135	148	160	149d	Agra
179	186	183	124	126	130	123	146	154	Bareilly
193	186	187	131	124	123	209	207	302	Banaras
198	181	181	115	116	118	149	161	158	Meerut
									IV.—Bihar :
204	211	..	146	140	..	156	174	..	Patna
									V.—West Bengal :
179	173	173	118	102	103	169	169	166	Howrah
180	174	178	116	119	119	170	242	222d	Budge Budge
163	165	166	118	103	104	156	159	161	Kankinara
188	178	180	216	163	190c	185	179	179	Raniganj
173	177	179	115	105	109	162	169	167	Calcutta
161	173	171	146	139	136	152	177	167e	Gouripore
176	170	174	140	124	125	181	178	177	Serampore
175	173	163	136	128	126	149	159	158	Kanchrapara

(d) Fall in the price of *pan*.(e) Fall in the prices of *pan* and *bidi*.

(x) Returns not received

RETAIL PRICE INDEX NUMBERS BY GROUPS AT 12 SELECTED RURAL CENTRES

(Base : 1944=100)

Name of Centres	Cereals			Pulses			Other articles of Food		
	July, '50	June, '51	July, '51	July '50	June, '51	July, '51	July, '50	June, '51	July, '51
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<i>Eastern Zone—</i>									
1. Bamra	—	x	x	—	x	x	—	x	x
2. Maibang	144	197	217a	142	142	133	160	170	171
3. Shankargarh	144	178	182	134	185	190	200	207	203
4. Sonaili	x	279	272	x	181	181	x	267	251c
<i>Northern Zone—</i>									
5. Multapi	185	206	213	150	183	192	220	182	155
6. Nana	310	283	x	276	239	x	239	252	x
7. Salamatpur	205	231	256b	186	253	265d	219	240	231
<i>Southern Zone—</i>									
8. Krishna	183	247	271c	148	183	196	207	213	212
9. Lakh	186	179	179	176	176	179	176	173	171
10. Malur	133	155	153	140	176	180	156	175	179
11. Muniguda	234	255	334a	236	267	270	254	328	330
12. Kudchi	126	123	123	113	142	141	188	220	203

Name of Centres	All articles of Food			Fuel and Lighting			Clothing			Miscellaneous		
	July, '50	June, '51	July, '51	July, '50	June, '51	July, '51	July, '50	June, '51	July, '51	July, '50	June, '51	July, '51
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<i>Eastern Zone—</i>												
1. Bamra	—	x	x	—	x	x	—	x	x	—	x	x
2. Maibang	156	168	169	103	102	102	123	163	164	89	126	162
3. Shankargarh	167	192	195	95	101	101	130	140	142	147	139	139
4. Sonaili	x	255	214	x	125	125	x	256	256	x	231	303m
<i>Northern Zone—</i>												
5. Multapi	197	186	190	115	115	115	176	139	140	168	193	192
6. Nana	258	257	x	142	142	x	147	108	x	198	208	x
7. Salamatpur	210	241	242	118	102	106	140	142	138	259	262	237
<i>Southern Zone—</i>												
8. Krishna	193	217	221	155	158	170h	131	169	163	199	219	223
9. Lakh	173	174	174	93	86	86	111	132	132	150	144	144
10. Malur	143	171	175	102	83	89	170	311	379j	244	214	224
11. Muniguda	247	303	321	102	105	105	126	251	238k	175	218	218
12. Kudchi	169	195	183	113	113	103i	139	142	142	149	162	162

(a) Rise in the price of rice.

(b) General rise in the prices of cereals.

(c) Rise in the prices of rice and *jowar*.

(d) Rise in the prices of *arhar*, *masoor* and gram *dals*.

(e) Fall in the prices of *zeera*, black pepper and sugar.

(f) Fall in the prices of sugar, chillies and turmeric.

(g) Rise in the prices of groundnut oil and match box.

(h) Fall in the price of kerosene oil.

(i) Rise in the prices of *dhoti*, turban cloth and shirt.

(j) Fall in the price of *saree*.

(k) Fall in the price of *pan*.

(l) Rise in the price of *pan*.

(m) Rise in the prices of betel nut and tobacco leaf.

(n) Returns not received.

INDEX NUMBERS OF RURAL PRICES IN THE MADRAS STATE (Base : July, 1935 to June, 1936=100)

District 1	Rural Centres 2	Index Numbers		
		July, 1950 3	June, 1951 4	July, 1951 5
Visakhapatnam	Adivivaram	415	467	471
Srikakulam	Thettangi	485	521	527
West Godavari	Alamuru	429	454	456
Bellary	Madavaram	474	507	519
South Arcot	Puliyur	443	449	450
	Agaram	400	422	422
Tiruchirapalli	Thulayanatham	525	494	515
Madhurai	Eriodu	418	499	497
	Gokilapuram	432	467	467
Coimbatore	Kinathukadavu	424	445	479
Malabar	Koduvalli	616	651	645
Chingleput	Guduvancheri	439	441	442
	Kunnathur	406	485	493

Source :—Public (Economics and Statistics) Department, Government of Madras.

ALL INDIA INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Economic Adviser's Index Numbers of wholesale prices, comprise selected items under the groups Food, Industrial Raw Materials, Semi-Manufactures, Manufactured Articles and Miscellaneous. Since from the point of view of the working classes, the Food group together with its sub-groups and Textile products are of importance, the index numbers relating to these groups are also given along with the General Index.

(Base : Year ended August, 1939=100)

	Cereals 2	Pulses 3	Other articles of food 4	All food articles 5	Textile products 6	General Index 7
1						
1947 Average	312	471	232	292	314	297
1948 Average	445	426	269	375	406	368
1949 Average	466	439	277	390	398	381
1950 Average	472	451	314	411	402	401
1950—						
July	475	461	335	423	400	405
August	478	470	340	427	402	409
September	485	475	339	430	402	413
October	495	484	319	427	403	411
November	521	509	281	424	403	411
December	510	507	291	424	404	413
1951						
January	487	509	293	414	406	414
February	487	509	294	414	430	423
March	488	518	288	412	457	439
April	490	501	289	413	501	458
May	489	515	289	413	496	457
June	486	506	294	413	493	457
July	480	496	292	408	484	447

Source :—Office of the Economic Adviser to the Government of India.

Absenteeism

ABSENTEEISM IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN INDIA
(Percentage of man-shifts lost to man-shifts scheduled to work)

Month 1	Cotton Mill Industry							Woollen Industry	
	Bombay	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Madras	Madurai	Coimbatore	Kanpur	Kanpur	Darjiling
	(b) 2	(b) 3	(b) 4	(a) 5	(a) 6	(a) 7	(d) 8	(d) 9	(a) 10
1947									
Average	14.4	6.4	19.1	10.3	14.7	13.8	16.1	11.5	—
1948									
Average	13.3	5.9	18.1	9.1	13.9	9.6	16.1	10.6	—
1949									
Average	15.9	7.4	21.3	8.6	13.1	8.1	15.6	11.0	—
1950									
Average	14.5	8.4	20.1	9.5	14.6	9.7	16.1	12.5	9.3
July	13.9	8.3	20.3	9.4	16.1	7.4	17.9	13.1	6.2
August	12.3	8.1	17.6	9.2	14.6	8.6	16.7	8.9	8.8
September	*	8.4	19.0	12.0	14.1	8.5	15.6	7.9	13.5
October	*	7.8	18.3	9.5	14.3	8.1	12.8	12.2	13.8
November	13.6	7.8	18.8	8.9	13.3	9.4	12.0	10.0	12.7
December	13.8	7.9	18.3	8.5	13.6	8.4	12.6	10.1	18.7
1951									
January	12.1	7.4	18.1	9.1	11.4	9.5	10.3	11.5	8.8
February	12.8	7.8	19.4	8.6	12.5	10.8	11.1	13.7	12.0
March	13.0	9.0	18.7	8.7	13.2	11.8	10.8	13.9	15.5
April	13.6	8.9	20.3	8.8	13.0	10.8	11.5	14.3	20.8
May	14.5	9.4	22.2	8.7	12.2	11.6	14.5	19.3	17.8
June	13.9	8.9	20.0	9.0	12.0	11.0	15.6	19.8	11.2
July	13.4	8.2	17.2	8.1	10.2	8.4	13.6	15.7	8.5

Month	Engineering Industry		Telegraph Work-shops	Tramway Work-shops	Iron and Steel Industry	Ordnance Factories	Cement Factories	Match Factories	Leather Industry
	Bombay	West Bengal	All India	All India	All India	All India	All India	All India	Kanpur
	(b) 11	(c) 12	(a) 13	(a) 14	(a) 15	(a) 16	(a) 17	(a) 18	(d) 19
1947									
Average	13.8	—	—	—	—	10.6	12.2	12.4	15.5
1948									
Average	13.4	—	—	—	14.3	8.5	10.9	10.9	8.0
1949									
Average	13.6	—	—	—	13.5	8.0	10.1	10.8	11.3
1950									
Average	13.1	11.1	8.1	15.7	12.4	8.9	10.6	11.0	2.4
July	12.0	9.3	7.9	14.4	12.2	7.7	8.6	10.3	15.5
August	10.1	12.7	7.1	11.9	11.8	6.9	10.2	10.1	21.0
September	11.1	9.0	7.2	12.2	10.5	8.3	8.7	9.0	4.2
October	10.0	7.6	7.4	20.1	10.6	7.2	10.3	9.6	5.9
November	12.9	8.7	7.5	13.4	11.6	7.4	9.0	9.6	4.8
December	11.8	8.4	8.3	13.9	10.5	7.7	9.0	9.0	5.2
1951									
January	11.2	8.8	8.0	14.7	10.7	7.7	10.5	7.4	3.9
February	13.0	9.2	7.1	9.3	10.1	8.5	11.3	10.6	4.9
March	14.8	10.1	8.2	13.9	11.5	9.1	14.0	9.9	4.8
April	16.5	10.8	8.9	13.5	11.2	9.9	13.4	11.5	5.6
May	20.3	13.7	11.2	12.6	12.7	11.4	15.0	13.1	8.0
June	15.0	13.3	11.4	13.1	12.6	10.5	12.7	12.7	7.0
July	12.9	10.6	8.7	10.8	11.3	8.6	13.1	11.4	21.2

Sources —

(a) Government of India ; Labour Bureau.

(b) Government of Bombay ; Deputy Commissioner of Labour (Information).

(c) Government of West Bengal ; Labour Commissioner.

(d) Employers' Association of Northern India.

* There was a general strike in the Cotton Textile Industry in Bombay City.

† Revised.

Absenteeism in Manufacturing Industries in India, during July, 1951, by Causes

1	No. of returns 2	Percentage of absenteeism due to				
		Sickness or accident 3	Leave other than holidays 4	Social or religious causes 5	Other causes 6	All causes 7
<i>Cotton Mills—</i>						
Madras State	32	2.4	3.6	1.6	1.6	9.2
Madras	1	2.8	3.1	1.0	1.2	8.1
Madura	7	2.7	3.9	2.0	1.6	10.2
Coimbatore	15	1.5	3.2	0.7	3.0	8.4
Tinnevelly	5	2.8	4.2	3.4	0.4	10.8
Others	4	2.8	3.7	0.6	1.1	8.2
<i>Woollen Mills—</i>						
Dhariwal	1	0.9	5.8	—	1.8	8.5
<i>Iron and Steel Factories—</i>						
All States	7	2.2	5.6	0.6	2.0	11.3
West Bengal	3	3.3	10.0	—	2.4	15.7
Bihar	3	2.0	4.3	0.7	3.0	10.0
Madras	1	1.0	4.4	1.9	—	7.3
<i>Ordinance Factories—</i>						
All States	20	1.2	5.1	0.4	1.9	8.6
West Bengal	3	1.1	3.2	0.2	3.5	8.0
Bombay	6	1.0	5.9	0.1	1.5	8.5
Madhya Pradesh	3	1.0	7.8	—	0.8	9.6
Uttar Pradesh	7	1.7	4.2	0.9	1.9	8.7
Madras	1	1.2	5.1	0.4	1.9	8.6
<i>Cement Factories—</i>						
All States	8	2.3	5.3	1.1	4.4	13.1
Madras	4	1.9	8.1	1.1	6.5	17.6
Madhya Pradesh	2	1.4	3.3	2.3	2.3	9.3
West Bengal	1	3.7	3.6	—	2.5	9.8
Bihar	1	3.5	2.5	0.6	2.8	9.4
<i>Match Factories—</i>						
All States	5	4.1	4.1	0.6	2.6	11.4
Bombay	1	3.4	4.3	2.2	2.0	11.9
West Bengal	1	3.1	3.2	—	3.2	9.5
Uttar Pradesh	1	2.8	4.2	0.2	1.9	9.1
Assam	1	4.8	2.6	—	2.6	10.0
Madras	1	7.2	6.1	—	3.4	16.7
<i>Tannery Workshops—</i>						
All States	4	2.5	3.3	3.2	1.8	10.8
Bombay	1	1.3	0.3	—	1.5	3.1
Calcutta	1	1.7	6.2	4.0	2.1	14.0
Madras	1	4.6	—	6.8	1.5	12.9
Delhi	1	9.2	6.6	—	0.9	16.7
<i>Telegraph Workshops—</i>						
All States	2	2.0	3.5	0.6	2.6	8.7
Bombay	1	1.8	7.9	1.2	0.1	11.0
West Bengal	1	2.0	0.8	0.3	4.1	7.2

ABSENTEEISM IN MANUFACTURING, MINING AND PLANTATION INDUSTRIES IN MYSORE STATE

Month	Manufacturing							Gold Mining	Plan- tations
	Tex- tiles	Engin- eering	Minerals & Metals	Food and Drink	Chem- icals and Dyes	Wood and Cera- mics	Mis- cell- aneous		
1949									
Average	11.8	11.8	—	19.2	13.7	11.8	12.2	14.5	—
1950									
Average	11.1	12.4	—	21.3	12.1	9.0	13.0	12.4	—
June	11.5	12.1	—	21.4	12.2	9.0	13.3	11.8	—
July	9.7	10.7	—	20.7	10.5	7.7	13.0	9.3	—
August	11.6	10.9	—	18.4	10.1	7.9	13.3	10.5	—
September	10.3	11.6	—	21.8	10.7	8.1	12.8	11.1	—
October	9.7	9.7	—	11.8	13.3	7.3	13.5	9.6	17.5
November	10.2	11.0	—	14.9	13.3	7.9	6.9	10.4	20.3
December	11.3	13.5	—	13.3	9.9	15.1	12.8	9.5	16.5
1951									
January	12.5	12.5	—	14.5	10.5	7.7	6.2	9.4	18.1
February	14.0	13.0	—	17.9	10.6	8.3	11.4	9.8	19.9
March	14.5	12.0	14.7†	18.2	11.2	12.5	9.8	9.7	18.5
April	13.1	12.7	16.2	18.4	13.5	9.4	9.3	10.3	20.0
May	11.0	13.4	15.9	12.6	13.3	8.0	8.5	10.1	22.4
June	10.6	12.5	15.0	12.7	13.2	10.0	8.9	10.1	19.2

Abstenteeism in Manufacturing, Mining and Plantation Industries in Mysore State during June, 1951, by Causes.

Industry	Number of returns	Percentage of absenteeism due to				
		Sickness or accident	Social or religious causes	Other causes		All causes
				With leave	Without leave	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>Manufacturing—</i>						
Textiles	20	0.9	1.1	5.0	3.6	10.6
Engineering	14	2.7	.8	5.8	3.2	12.5
Minerals & Metals	2	1.5	2.7	2.4	8.4	13.0
Food and Drink	6	2.9	2.7	5.4	1.7	12.7
Chemicals and Dyes	7	2.2	2.0	3.7	5.3	13.2
Wood and Cera- mics	9	1.0	0.7	5.1	3.2	10.0
Miscellaneous	9	4.4	0.7	1.6	2.2	8.9
Gold Mining	3	3.7	0.1	1.6	4.7	10.1
Plantations	11	—	—	—	—	—

Source:—Labour Commissioner, Mysore.

* The figures were previously being included under "Food & Drink".

† The figures were previously being included under "Engineering".

: Employment Service

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE STATISTICS

Period	No. of exchanges at the end of the period	No. of registrations during the period	No. of applicants placed in employment during the period	No. of applicants on the live registers at the end of the period	No. of employers using the exchanges during the period	No. of vacancies notified during the period	No. of vacancies outstanding at the end of the period
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15th August, 1947 to 1st December, 1947							
1948	53	207,838	61,729	236,734	2,879*	97,892	68,756
1948	54	808,787	250,774	239,033	3,422*	380,118	55,131
1949	55	1,066,351	256,809	274,335	4,483*	362,011	29,292
1950	67	1,210,358	331,193	330,743	5,566*	410,307	28,189
July	64	121,017	29,393	345,395	6,919	34,000	24,388
August	65	119,682	29,021	365,732	6,135	34,858	23,432
September	65	101,685	29,377	347,944	6,313	34,802	23,396
October	66	92,835	27,302	338,311	5,523	34,006	25,269
November	66	114,139	34,554	333,628	5,879	43,078	27,570
December	67	116,330	33,809	330,743	5,739	41,664	28,189
1951—							
January	67	120,050	34,631	345,159	6,048	39,282	26,987
February	67	107,968	32,978	348,748	6,011	39,625	26,728
March	67	112,904	38,253	337,092	6,857	44,202	25,690
April	122	113,437	35,396	331,372	6,387	41,813	24,547
May	124	115,685	35,719	328,837	7,020	43,089	26,186
June	124	119,404	34,540	330,399	6,719	39,872	25,429
July	124	131,846	35,233	343,730	6,458	42,014	25,463

* Monthly averages.

Employment Exchange Statistics for July, 1951, by States

State or Region	No. of exchanges	No. of registrations	No. of applicants placed in employment during the month	No. of applicants on the live registers at the end of the month	No. of employers using exchanges	No. of vacancies notified	No. of vacancies outstanding
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Assam	3	2,467	351	9,927	73	469	515
Bihar	15	10,189	2,700	21,793	271	2,893	2,007
Bombay	10	14,910	3,452	39,738	567	4,356	3,033
Madhya Pradesh	5	6,592	891	17,815	194	955	976
Madras	28	21,314	4,804	76,651	864	5,120	3,354
Orissa	2	1,135	494	1,571	29	642	393
Punjab	14	10,379	2,727	21,142	671	3,841	2,573
Uttar Pradesh	30	36,403	13,271	64,693	2,878	14,963	5,735
West Bengal	6	16,450	3,862	59,217	361	5,012	3,205
Hyderabad	3	2,360	625	11,339	56	636	373
Delhi, Rajasthan & Ajmer	8	9,047	2,046	20,541	494	3,125	2,700
Total	124	1,31,846	35,233	3,43,730	6,458	42,014	25,463

Source:—Directorate-General of Resettlement and Employment.

TRAINING STATISTICS

Month	No. of centres at the end of the period	Number of persons undergoing training at the end of the period				
		Technical	Vocational	Women	Apprenticeship	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1947—						
September	187	5,800	1,878	893	265	8,836*
1948—						
July	377	9,178	3,691	238	1,491	14,598*
1949						
July	533	10,958	4,571	255	2,459	18,243*
1950—						
July	98	6,022	1,162	322	—	7,506
August	63	8,635	1,886	340	—	10,861
September	63	9,465	2,216	340	—	12,021
October	63	9,238	2,136	327	—	11,701
November	63	8,730	2,082	318	—	11,130
December	63	8,466	2,014	338	—	10,818
1951—						
January	63	8,293	1,989	331	—	10,613
February	63	8,217	1,950	331	—	10,498
March	63	8,037	1,925	328	—	10,290
April	84	7,964	1,831	282	695	10,772
May	204	7,906	1,745	270	744	10,665
June	209	7,764	1,412	148	839	10,163
July	199	7,610	2,304	390	789	11,103

* Excluding disabled persons.

Training Statistics for July, 1951, by States

State	No. of Centres	Number of persons undergoing training				
		Technical	Vocational	Women	Apprenticeship	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Assam	1	263	103	—	—	366
Bihar	3	394	16	—	—	410
Bombay	5	631	138	—	—	769
Madhya Pradesh	1	312	73	—	—	385
Madras	10	707	90	56	—	853
Orissa	2	242	39	—	—	281
Punjab	6	843	513	—	—	1,356
Uttar Pradesh	113	1,233	597	179	—	2,009
West Bengal	42	1,478	325	—	—	1,803
Mysore	3	260	41	—	—	301
P.P.S.U.	1	86	—	—	—	86
Hajasthan	1	63	—	—	—	63
Travancore-Cochin	4	266	52	—	—	318
Ajmer	1	105	—	—	—	105
Gujarat	1	22	42	11	—	75
Goa	4	415	159	151	—	725
Northern Pradesh	1	59	93	—	—	152
Total	199	7,610	2,304	390	789	11,103

Notes: Figures from the figures given above, 123 Primary and 1 Teacher and 115 Industrial training centres were engaged in training at the end of July, 1951.

Source: Directorate General of Employment and Expenditure.

Labour in Coal Mines

TABLE I

TOTAL NUMBER OF MAN-SHIFTS WORKED IN COAL MINES

Month	Under-ground	Open workings	Surface	Total
1950—				
June	3,638,066	750,791	2,887,470	7,276,327
July	3,750,430	649,837	3,147,860	7,548,127
August	4,272,546	749,919	3,282,463	8,304,928
September	4,573,790	674,920	3,377,501	8,626,211
October	4,142,745	1,183,517	3,212,622	8,538,884
November	3,906,055	776,519	3,121,111	7,803,685
December	4,303,108	826,952	3,260,009	8,390,067
1951—				
January	4,424,373	812,503	3,260,528	8,497,404
February	4,319,962	803,502	3,150,177	8,273,641
March	4,425,146	835,955	3,172,504	8,433,605
April	4,390,474	780,275	3,201,983	8,372,732
May	4,577,619	785,925	3,309,008	8,672,552
June	4,205,293	709,159	3,226,630	8,141,082

TABLE II

PERCENTAGE OF ABSENTEEISM AMONG WORKERS IN COAL MINES

Month	Under-ground	Open workings	Surface	Overall
1950—				
June	—	—	—	14.00
July	15.65	15.32	10.67	14.27
August	16.55	13.63	10.83	13.57
September	17.76	23.29	10.03	13.56
October	16.69	14.72	10.68	14.24
November	17.08	13.80	10.98	14.47
December	15.01	10.53	9.83	13.73
1951—				
January	14.82	18.18	10.32	14.03
February	15.47	12.90	9.71	11.96
March	15.44	13.33	11.12	13.59
April	14.91	13.95	10.26	13.10
May	14.56	14.91	10.53	13.10
June	15.10	15.37	10.35	13.30

Source —Chief Inspector of Mines, Dhanbad.

TABLE III

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF UNDERGROUND MINERS AND LOADERS IN COAL MINES

	Jharia				Raniganj			
	Basic Wages	Dearness allowance	Other cash payments	Total	Basic Wages	Dearness allowance	Other cash payments	Total
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1950								
June	4 3 5	6 3 3	1 6 9	11 13 5	4 3 11	6 10 4	1 7 10	12 6 1
July	4 7 9	6 7 1	1 7 6	12 6 4	4 2 8	5 4 9	1 6 0	10 13 5
August	4 5 4	6 5 8	1 8 9	12 3 9	3 4 3	4 12 1	1 3 2	9 3 6
September	4 5 1	6 4 7	1 7 1	12 0 9	3 12 9	5 8 7	1 4 1	10 0 4
October	4 2 8	6 1 9	1 3 7	11 8 1	4 0 5	5 13 6	1 5 8	11 3 7
November	4 5 7	6 4 9	1 5 3	11 15 7	3 12 3	5 8 7	1 4 3	10 9 1
December	4 11 5	7 0 9	1 8 9	13 4 11	4 0 4	5 8 0	1 5 10	10 4 2
1951								
January	4 9 9	6 15 0	1 7 1	12 15 10	3 1 11	5 9 6	1 5 6	10 0 11
February	4 5 5	6 9 7	1 6 7	12 5 7	3 15 2	5 15 0	1 7 0	11 5 2
March	4 11 11	7 13 3	1 7 10	14 1 0	4 0 0	6 0 0	1 12 1	11 12 1
April	3 15 7	5 6 4	1 4 3	10 10 2	3 15 11	5 13 4	1 6 4	11 3 7
May	4 14 9	6 14 1	1 6 11	13 3 9	3 15 3	6 3 5	1 7 1	11 9 9
June	4 8 9	6 9 2	1 7 6	12 9 5	3 14 9	5 11 11	1 7 9	11 2 5

TABLE IV.

PRODUCTIVITY OF WORKERS EMPLOYED IN THE COAL MINES

	Output (in tons) per man-shift for		
	Miners and loaders	All persons employed in underground and open workings	All persons employed above and below ground
1950—			
June	0.98	0.52	0.31
July	1.01	0.52	0.30
August	0.96	0.50	0.30
September	0.96	0.52	0.32
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Source :—Chief Inspector of Mines, Dhanbad.

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